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Simon*

is putting his heart and sole into the Bala Cynwyd-based
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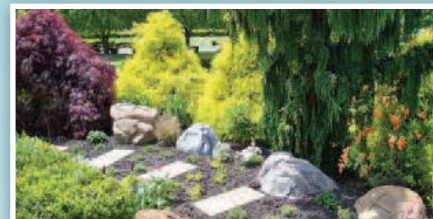
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Leah Feldman General Manager



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Dave Simon gives his heart and sole to Golden Slipper.



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YU Basketball Star Ryan Turell Enters NBA Draft, Hoping to Become the League's First Orthodox Player

Yeshiva University basketball star Ryan Turell wants to be the first Orthodox Jewish player in the National Basketball Association, and he has taken the first step toward that goal: entering the NBA draft.

The 22-year-old Los Angeles native will forgo his final year of college eligibility and enter the 2022 draft this summer, ESPN reported.

"Being the first Orthodox Jew in the NBA would mean the world to me, and a dream come true, God willing," Turell told ESPN. "But, just as importantly, it would mean the world to others that never saw this as a possibility."

The 6-foot-7 guard wears a yarmulke when he plays, and said he plans to continue doing so when he plays professionally.

Turell was the leading scorer in the NCAA across all divisions this season, averaging 27.1 points per game. He shot 59% overall, and an impressive 47% from three-point range.

That earned Turell his second consecutive Skyline Conference Player of the Year award and helped him lead the YU Maccabees to a 25-4 record, a second straight conference championship and a No. 1 national DIII ranking.

Yeshiva also extended a multiyear winning streak to 50 games, garnering national attention along the way, including from NBA teams.

"I know NBA teams came to see me," Turell said. "My coach would tell me after each game, especially toward the end of the season. Quite a few NBA teams came to watch."

The team was eliminated in the first round of the Division III NCAA tournament earlier this month.

Turell's chances in the draft are unclear. A total of 60 players are selected



Ryan Turell in game action

in two rounds — considerably fewer than in other professional sports leagues. ESPN projects that he will not be drafted.

"My full intention is to play professional basketball next year," Turell said.

The NBA draft will be held June 23 at Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York.

— Jacob Gurvis

For \$500, This Zabar's Sweater Can Be Yours

Bagel and bag lovers rejoice! The Zabar's x Coach collaboration has arrived and it's the ultimate mashup of nosh meets posh.

As part of their Spring/Summer 2022 line, luxury fashion brand Coach is drawing inspiration from the iconic Upper West Side gourmet grocery. Specifically, Coach has placed the iconic orange Zabar's logo — accompanied by an image of a bagel with a bite taken out of it — on their classic brown leather Cashin Carry Bag, as well as a gray wool sweater. The bag retails for \$550, while the sweater is priced at \$495.

Yes, that's a pretty penny. Then again, considering that Zabar's Bagels and Nova Brunch Box — featuring a dozen bagels, a pound of fish, cream cheese, coffee and rugelach — retails for \$229, paying approximately twice that for something that you can one day pass on to your grandchildren doesn't seem that absurd. (Plus, if your taste or budget is a bit more modest, there's also a Zabar's x Coach T-shirt for \$150.)

The pieces are designed by Coach New York's creative director, Stuart Vevers.



The grey sweater pays tribute to the Upper West Side food emporium and retails for \$495.

The collection is an ode to New York and the colorful, upbeat designs of Coach's first designer, Bonnie Cashin, who created handbags for Coach from 1962 to 1974.

Dubbed a "love letter to New York," the collection is meant as a tribute to the city's tenacity and ability to inspire. (The brand's Spring 2021 collection also featured New York-inspired apparel.) And the 2022 collection doesn't only feature Zabar's merch: There's also a T-shirt with a "I survived a ride on the subway in New York City" graphic, another with a sketch of the Brooklyn Bridge and more.

Coach Inc. began as a family-run leather shop known on 34th Street in Manhattan. It was started by Miles Cahn, the son of Russian-Jewish immigrants, and his wife Lillian Cahn, neé Lenovitz, who immigrated from Hungary. They opened Gail Leather Products as a small leather goods workshop in 1941, and in 1961 they bought out the business's other investors and renamed themselves the Coach Leatherware Company.

— Julia Gergely

Turell: Courtesy of Yeshiva University via JTA; Sweater: Coach via JTA



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Courtesy of Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia via Getty Images

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Gun Violence in City Impacts Jewish Areas

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

In pandemic-era Philadelphia, gun violence is a catastrophic and ongoing problem.

Two years ago, the city suffered through 499 homicides, outpacing the number from any 12-month period in the 2010s. Last year, the city endured 562 homicides, breaking the record of 503 set in 1990. And in 2022, Philadelphia is on pace to surpass that ignominious mark once again.

A serious Philadelphia County issue impacts all city residents, regardless of demographic group, so this one affects Jewish Philadelphians as well.

A 2019 population survey conducted by the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia found that Jews live in significant numbers in almost every

section of the city. More than 10,000 Jews reside in Northeast Philadelphia, Northwest Philadelphia, North Philadelphia and West Philadelphia, while more than 30,000 Jews live in Center City. South/Southwest Philadelphia is the only region with fewer than 10,000 Jewish residents, counting just over 4,000.

The City of Philadelphia tracks homicide victims by race, age and sex, but not religion. And the Jewish Federation focuses its population study on regions, not neighborhoods. Both factors make it hard to find out how many local Jews were victimized by gun violence.

But it is possible to examine whether shootings and homicides are happening in Jewish-populated regions. All Philadelphia Police Department numbers include the last two years.

Luckily for the Jewish community,

gun violence is having the least impact in Center City, where the most Jews live. Philadelphia's hub experienced 13 shootings and two homicides between 2020 and '21, according to police data.

"What we know about Jewish households in Center City is that they tend to be younger families that I'm sure are vigilant in deciding where they're going to raise young children," said Lindsay Weicher, the Jewish Federation's data strategist. "I wouldn't be surprised if these households were to say, we're choosing to live in Center City because it's safer."

And it is much safer than other regions in the city.

Northeast Philadelphia, the second-most populous Jewish area with more than 19,000 residents, experienced 85 shootings and 30 homicides over the past two years.

Northwest Philadelphia, the third-most populated Jewish region with more than 13,000 people, suffered through 199 shootings and 40 homicides in 2020 and '21. West and North Philadelphia, both with more than 12,000 Jewish residents, endured more violence than the other regions; West Philadelphia experienced 229 shootings and 50 homicides and North Philadelphia suffered through 915 and 223, respectively.

South/Southwest Philadelphia also saw violence, with 84 combined shootings and 22 combined homicides over the past two years.

"We know there are Jewish households in all neighborhoods," Weicher said. "So any kind of issues affecting a particular community or neighborhood, Jewish communities will not be excluded from dealing with those issues."

Weicher and Jewish Federation Senior Director of Security Frank Riehl don't think this issue should dissuade Jews from living in the city. But they did say that Jews who choose to live in Philadelphia should stay alert.

Riehl advised Jewish residents to avoid looking down at their phones

"I'm sure it's one of many factors that goes into deciding where to raise young families," Weicher said of gun violence.

But while young families may trend toward the suburbs at a certain age, they also may live anywhere within city limits, alongside other Jews. Jewish Federation realized that when it com-

"I wouldn't be surprised if these households were to say, we're choosing to live in Center City because it's safer."

LINDSAY WEICHER

while walking through the city. Weicher said to "remain vigilant to mitigate the impact it may have on your household or your community or your circle of contacts."

She mentioned that households with older children, roughly 12 and up, tend to move out to the suburban counties, though that was already a trend before 2020.

pleted its last population study, which shows that Jews live throughout the city.

Instead of just cold-calling households, it mailed surveys to addresses. And instead of just asking people if they were Jewish, it asked if they were Jewish by religion, ethnicity, culture and/or heritage.



The new methodology helped Jewish Federation reach people who didn't use landlines and count the types of Jews it never counted in the past.

"It's not just, 'Are you Jewish and affiliated by denomination?'" Weicher said. "That would exclude households."

In broadening the definition of the Jewish population, Jewish Federation

figured out that Jews live in all regions of the city. The old "all Jews live in Center City or the Northeast" stereotype simply does not apply. Therefore, any city issue is necessarily a Jewish issue.

"It was an opportunity to reevaluate our perception of what the community looks like," Weicher concluded. **JE**



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Area Businessman Aids Extraction Efforts in Ukraine

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Three weeks ago, Gary Wasserson wasn't aware he had relatives in Ukraine, let alone that he'd be there when they fled the country to Poland.

"It seems like a year has passed in a week," Wasserson said.

The Montgomery County businessman recently returned from an eight-day trip to Poland and Ukraine, where he organized an extraction team to help five of his cousins leave Lviv, Ukraine, and enter Poland.

"When I looked at their eyes when I met them at the border ... they had that same blind stare that you saw in the concentration camp survivors when



Gary Wasserson on Zoom with members of his "structured grassroots" network of individuals helping to extract Ukrainians from their war-torn country



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they were liberated," Wasserson said.

The family was relocated to Krakow, Poland, where Wasserson rented them a home to stay temporarily.

During his brief time in Eastern Europe, Wasserson, with the help of his daughter's partner Kevin Rowell, a disaster relief specialist, organized a network of volunteers and nonprofit leaders to build a "structured grassroots efforts" to help extract hundreds more Ukrainians, both Jews and non-Jews.

A WhatsApp group originally with four members has ballooned to more than 200 people. Now back home, Wasserson has been receiving hundreds, if not 1,000, texts a day. He hasn't gotten more than four hours of sleep since the endeavor started. Wasserson's wife, Ellen, describes their home as "Grand Central Station" in all its busyness.

Wasserson learned of his cousins in Ukraine from Steven Blotner, a relative whose father was interested in family history. Blotner reached out to Wasserson shortly after Russia invaded Ukraine.

Blotner and Wasserson's original plan was to raise money to send over

to the family members; Wasserson initially invested \$100,000 in the effort. But after an hour of pondering how else to help out, Wasserson was struck by the similarities of the situation to World War II, when many Ashkenazi Jews were trying to cross borders to escape from authoritarian rule.

"This is a 'never again' moment," Wasserson said. "I can't leave anybody behind, whether they're Jewish, Muslim, Catholic — I don't care. We've got to do everything we can to get as many humans to safety as possible."

While at the border, Wasserson witnessed families, mostly women and children, waiting in a five-kilometer line for three-and-a-half days to cross the border. What Wasserson didn't see was a tremendous effort by organizations and government bodies to lead the extraction or evacuation efforts.

"There's no government showing up here. There's no Red Cross; there's nothing," Wasserson said.

Particularly for the women whose husbands were drafted into the military, human trafficking threats loom, Wasserson said, increasing the urgency of extraction efforts.

According to Rowell, who helped



Wasserson helps his cousins from Lviv leave the border to Krakow, Poland.

coordinate efforts back home, efforts to evacuate in Ukraine have been tenuous.

“The situation in Ukraine was, at the time, devolving quickly,” he said. “With the randomness of the Russian assault, it was very hard to understand what life would be like, especially in the major cities from day to day.”

Relief efforts in times of war rarely feel successful, Rowell admitted. For the dozens of Philadelphia-area friends or community members reaching out to the family, finding ways to help can feel insignificant or futile, he said.

Donations to relief organizations in Ukraine have gone toward transportation, housing, medical assistance and personal protective equipment, as well as protective flak jackets, according to Rowell. For those donating money, it can be difficult to see where their dollars are going.

“I can’t stress it enough. It’s not about the individuals. It’s not about us,” Rowell said. “It’s about the fact that if everyone gets in and pushes, we can save everyone. We can get everyone out of there.”

Wasserson has also worked with U.S. Rep. Susan Wild, a Jewish Democrat representing Pennsylvania’s 7th District. Wild was in Rzeszow, Poland, the weekend of March 5 with members of a bipartisan congressional delegation.

One of Wild’s constituents, Alla Kligman, reached out to Wild, saying that she, too, had relatives in Ukraine, who Wasserson eventually helped extract.

Kligman also has connections to an orphanage in Ukraine, which was home to 600 children, which Wild is taking responsibility for extracting and relocating.



An extraction site at the Ukraine-Poland border, where Wasserson aided extraction efforts over eight days

Photos courtesy of Ellen Wasserson

“My office has been working relentlessly with the Department of Defense and the State Department and DHS (Department of Homeland Security) to make sure that we can get these children here to the United States,” Wild said.

Wasserson has promised additional financial help.

However, for a large-scale extraction, some elements are out of an individual’s control. According to Wild, there has been extensive contact with the Ukrainian embassy about extracting the orphans. The Department of Defense has to work to find temporary, short-term housing for them, likely on a military base.

“It’s one thing for a group of private citizens to want to do good and do the right thing,” Wild said. “It’s another thing altogether to try to make it happen by literally getting all of the pieces in place.” **JE**

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Cherry Hill Synagogues Embrace Unification

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

Temple Emanuel and Congregation M'kor Shalom members took separate votes on Jan. 24 on whether to unify their Reform synagogues, both based in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

All congregants on both sides voted, according to M'kor Shalom President Drew Molotsky. And 98% of them voted to come together in a larger Jewish community.

"It was pretty unanimous," Molotsky said.

As the president explained, the South Jersey communities are living in a time of declining synagogue attendance. Their congregations declined from more than 1,000 members on each side to between 300 and 350 at the

time of the vote, according to Emanuel President David Chasen. Therefore, it just made sense for them to combine members and resources.

M'kor Shalom was created from splitting apart from Temple Emanuel almost 50 years ago, according to Chasen. And by the 2000s, temple leaders began discussing a possible reunification. They just didn't want to choose between their respective rabbis. But Emanuel's senior rabbi, Jerome P. David, retired last year after a 47-year run.

Now, though, the hard part begins: bringing two still-sizeable institutions together.

At the very least, they know the building into which they'll be moving: Temple Emanuel's home on Springdale Road. They also know who the senior rabbi will be: M'kor Shalom's

Jennifer Frenkel.

Temple Emanuel's structure is younger and has less deferred maintenance and a lower mortgage, according to Molotsky. And Frenkel is the only senior rabbi left between the communities. Emanuel's rabbi, Marc Disick, is filling in on an interim basis.

Everything else, though, is up in the air, and the congregations have until their July 1 unification date to figure it all out, per the M'kor Shalom president.

As spring begins, synagogue leaders have at least determined their process for moving forward.

A Joint Oversight Committee started meeting before the vote. Since then, Molotsky and Chasen have opened a Transition Committee with a team of five and a point man who reports back to the Oversight Committee and

the presidents.

Between 50 and 60 people are helping the Transition Committee focus on five key areas: finance, operations, ritual, community and legal.

Some of the bigger tasks include selling M'kor Shalom's property on East Evesham Road and putting the money into the new synagogue's fund, transferring other assets and liabilities into the merged entity, coming up with a new name, establishing the unified institution's charitable organization status, moving ritual items into Emanuel's building, purging unnecessary items and finding offices for staff members.

From a more public-facing standpoint, the congregation needs to develop a bar and bat mitzvah process that both communities agree on. They have, at least, sorted out conflicting

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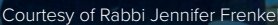
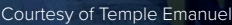
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Both preschools and religious schools are going to finish their 2021-'22 years, then determine which teachers want to stay and how many spots might be open for applicants. They will just have to do so together, instead of separately.

Right now, too, the Reform institutions have merely doubled their executive committees and boards of trustees. There are two people in each executive position, two vice presidents, treasurers and financial secretaries, among other roles. There are also 24 people on the board of trustees, a combination of the 12-person bodies from each synagogue.

But work is less difficult when the mission is clear and when most people believe in it. Frenkel, for her part, called the unification “exciting.” The rabbi believes that, after two years of

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— Suzanne Sztul, President
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Jewish Federation
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SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Chef Henry Morgan is right back where he started, and he couldn't be happier about it.

On March 15, the CookNSolo alumnus cut the ribbon on his first cafe, Homeroom, which is located at the former Green Bean Coffee in Gladwyne, where Morgan held his first front-of-house/back-of-house restaurant experience 10 years prior.

The cafe is minutes from his Wynnewood childhood home and just down the street from Beth David Reform Congregation, where the chef had his bar mitzvah.

Homeroom's menu, with items such as za'atar chicken salad sandwich and smoked salmon toast, plays homage to both Morgan's time as a chef at Merkaz and Dizengoff and his Jewish roots.

Why did you decide to name your cafe Homeroom?

The biggest thing is, it feels like a homecoming, it feels like home for me.

Also, just from a practical standpoint, it sounds sexy, but I wanted a one-word name that didn't require "coffee" or "cafe" at the end of it. It starts with an "H" and ends with an "M" — my initials — which is kind of a nice side effect.

We kicked around a bunch of different names for a while, and that was one of them, and it grew on me. It's kind of like naming a child — I don't have any children, but it feels like it. I felt pretty good about it, and it seems like people are resonating with it as well.

When did you really begin to think that opening your own cafe was something you could do?

In the middle of last summer. I left CookNSolo in July. I kind of grew out of my position, just due to the pandemic. I was considering just kind of taking some time off ... that I haven't had in years and years and years and then potentially rejoining the company for plenty of projects down the line.

I was driving out here in Gladwyne, Lower Merion, going to have lunch

with my dad ... and I drove past the cafe and there was a big "For Lease" sign in the window. And I was like, 'Oh, that's kind of interesting' and called the number that was put in the window, and one thing led to another, and it just all fell in place. It was just perfect, perfect timing.

What were some of the lessons you learned while working at CookNSolo?

A couple things I think I've been able to carry over here: One is that every detail matters, no stone left unturned. Also, that hospitality is as important as the product that you're serving, and oftentimes, it is the product you're serving.

Mike [Solomonov] loves to say that if the bathroom isn't clean, somehow the food doesn't taste as good. Just to the point of details and presentability, curating an overall positive guest experience.

What made you decide to become a chef?

Well, I always loved to eat from a very young age. My grandmother was a great cook and cooked all of our holiday meals and all special occasions.

But really where it started was for my mitzvah project for my bar mitzvah, I worked at MANNA (Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance), an organization in Center City. They cook and deliver meals for homebound AIDS patients, but I think maybe they have evolved into more than just that, specifically. And I connected really well with the chefs and people that work there. I kind of became like the de facto hosts for all these different groups that would come through.

The following summer I had my first real job, which was in a restaurant called Taquet in Wayne, which is no longer there and hasn't been there for 10, 12 years, but it's a very old-school French restaurant.

And the chef de cuisine there, a guy named Clark Gilbert, who's still one of my absolute best friends to this day, and happens to live right around the corner from the cafe



here in Gladwyne, became like an instant mentor for me. But the subculture of the industry and, really, my relationship with Clark and the way that I looked up to him kept driving my passion, my interest in working in restaurants.

What was the first dish you ever learned to cook?

I would say Caesar salad. We sold a lot of salads [at Taquet]. Caesar salad was one of my favorites, and probably is still, one of my favorites foods, and certainly as a little kid it was.

And we now have a salad at my new cafe called Clark Caesar salad. So it's like a little community nod, and he (Clark Gilbert) gave me his recipe for the dressing. And it still holds up to me to be the best. **JE**

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Student Campaign at Tufts Urges Peers to Reject Even Liberal Pro-Israel Groups

PENNY SCHWARTZ | JTA.ORG

BOSTON — University student-led campaigns to boycott Israel are not an uncommon sight, but a new student movement at Tufts University is taking a form rarely seen before in similar campus boycott efforts.

Tufts' Students for Justice in Palestine chapter this week called for a strategic boycott against Israel, asking students to sign the group's pledge not to buy Israeli snacks sold on campus (such as Sabra hummus). But in what some observers say is a new and troubling tactic, the group also asks students to refuse to join campus groups or programs "that normalize or benefit" Israel, including the student groups Tufts Friends of Israel, TAMID and Tufts J Street, a campus branch of the liberal Middle East policy group that advocates for a two-state solution.

The campaign also urges students to not study abroad in Israel or participate in Birthright Israel; not to take a university program entitled Visions of Peace that focuses on dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians; and not to enroll in a summer fellowship supported by the Anti-Defamation League.

SJP went public with "Justice Through BDS," its latest initiative, on Monday in an op-ed in a student publication that it shared on its social media sites. The group supports BDS, the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement that targets companies that do business with Israel.

In its statement, SJP accuses Israel of violating human rights of Palestinians, including with demolition of homes and displacement dating back to 1948, the year Israel gained statehood. It describes Zionism as a form of "settler colonialism" and uses the term "apartheid" to describe its occupation of Palestinian land.

The statement included a justification for opposing J Street: "While SJP recog-



A view of Tufts University's Medford, Massachusetts campus

Courtesy of Tufts University

nizes that many Jewish people begin their anti-zionist political journey through J Street U, and appreciates that J Street U's Tufts chapter agrees that antisemitism and anti-Zionism are not synonymous, it is crucial for students to refuse half-measures that condemn occupation while normalizing colonization."

The Tufts SJP did not respond to several requests for comment.

"We strongly oppose this renewed campaign at Tufts," Patrick Collins, executive director of the schools' media relations, said in a statement.

Collins expressed disappointment that SJP chose to ask students to boycott other student groups on campus.

Tufts rejects the BDS movement, "elements of which we believe are rooted in antisemitism," according to Collins.

"As an educational institution, we must encourage honest and open debate about difficult issues, including those in the Middle East. Students for Justice in Palestine have an important role to play in these discussions. However, their most recent campaign is divisive and harmful. It doesn't help foster

important conversations — rather, it shuts them down while ostracizing fellow students," Collins wrote.

The campaign could point to a larger shift in strategy for proponents of Israel boycotts, as a similar sentiment was recently expressed by the leader of the San Francisco branch of the Council on American-Islamic Relations. In November, Zahra Billoo delivered a speech urging pro-Palestinian activists to oppose "polite Zionists," whom she defined to include Jewish groups like Hillel, the ADL and "Zionist synagogues." "They are not your friends," Billoo said at the time.

Tufts, a liberal arts college and research institution with some 5,800 undergraduates and a large Jewish student body, is located just six miles from downtown Boston. Over the years, its administration has taken a stand against academic boycotts and has rejected earlier efforts by SJP to have the school divest from Israeli companies.

Tufts Hillel condemned SJP's call for a boycott against Israel and Israel-related programming on campus.

In a statement on its Facebook page, Rabbi Naftali Brawer, the group's executive director, and Allison Cohen, Tufts Hillel student president, said the groups targeted by SJP represent a wide spectrum of views on Israel.

"Unlike SJP, we firmly believe that dialogue is the only route to deeper understanding between people of divergent views and a lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians," they wrote.

The latest SJP campaign goes well beyond the conventional norms of boycotts, according to Robert Trestan, regional director of the New England Anti-Defamation League.

Asking students to sign a pledge refusing to associate with a range of groups elevates Trestan's concerns, he wrote in a letter to Tufts University president Anthony Monaco that Trestan provided to JTA.

"This list ... effectively creates a litmus test that could be used to restrict Jewish students from full participation in the many facets of student life," he wrote. **JE**

Statue of Jewish Baseball Icon Sandy Koufax to be Unveiled

Jewish baseball legend Sandy Koufax will be immortalized this summer with a statue at Dodger Stadium, JTA reported.

The Hall of Fame pitcher will join trailblazing teammate Jackie Robinson, whose bronze statue was unveiled in the centerfield plaza in 2017. Artist Branly Cadet, who made the Robinson statue, also created Koufax's sculpture.

The Los Angeles Dodgers announced the statue in 2019, with its unveiling originally planned for the summer of 2020. The new ceremony will be held on June 18 before a game against the Cleveland Guardians. The first 40,000 ticketed fans will receive a replica of Koufax's statue.

Koufax, now 86, became the youngest player to enter baseball's Hall of Fame when he was inducted in 1972 at the age of 36. That same year, the Dodgers retired Koufax's jersey number, 32, alongside Robinson's iconic 42, which is retired across the sport.

Among Jewish fans, Koufax is best known for a game he did not pitch. Game 1 of the 1965 World Series fell on Yom Kippur, and Koufax famously declined to play.

Idaho GOP Official Tried to install an Antisemite in Democratic Leadership — as a Distraction

Dave Reilly is a longtime far-right activist with an extensive record of antisemitic, racist and misogynistic statements. So it would be hard to imagine him as a Democratic Party leader.

But that's exactly what a Republican Party leader in Western Idaho tried to make happen, JTA reported, citing the Coeur d'Alene/Post Falls Press.

Dan Bell, the youth chairman for the Republican committee in Kootenai County, tried to rally fellow Republicans to switch parties to become Democratic chairs in a majority of 73 local precincts. The faux-Democrats would then elect Reilly as party chair — and the ensuing controversy would drain attention away from the Republicans' bad-faith takeover of the Democrats.

Reilly, who attended the white supremacist march in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017, has said that "all Jews are dangerous" and that "Jews pretend to be white when it's expedient for them."

Bell told another Republican in a 30-minute phone call that the local newspaper reported, Reilly's inflammatory record would make him a sacrificial lamb.

Israel Ranks as World's Ninth-Happiest Country

Israel placed as the ninth-happiest country in the annual World Happiness Report, an increase from 11th in 2021 and 14th in 2020, The Jerusalem Post reported.

The World Happiness Report is a publication of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

The report takes into account GDP, social support, life expectancy, freedom to make life choices, generosity and perceptions of corruption in developing its rankings.

Finland placed first for the fifth year in a row, followed by fellow Nordic countries Denmark and Iceland. The Netherlands and Luxembourg ranked fourth and fifth, followed by the Nordic states of Sweden and Norway.

The United States ranked 15th.

Afghanistan maintained its last-place status out of the 146 countries included.

COVID Cases Climb in Israel

The number of coronavirus cases in Israel has climbed in recent days, The Times of Israel reported, noting almost 7,000 new cases on March 17.

The transmission rate climbed to 0.97; the rate represents the average number of people infected by a confirmed patient. Numbers over 1 indicate the pandemic is growing.

As of March 18, there were 40,242 active cases in the country, although cases considered serious continue to decline and totaled just 291.

The country's death toll stood at 10,417.

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett announced on March 16 that the country will keep its indoor mask mandate in place for, at minimum, another month. **JE**

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb



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Skirmishes Over Israel's Legitimacy

Last week, a skirmish in the battle to promote Palestinian rights by delegitimizing the state of Israel broke out at the Sierra Club. The venerable environmental organization that is committed to defending the world's most precious resources suddenly found itself uncomfortably embroiled in the debate over the legitimacy of the Jewish state.

For the past decade, Sierra Club has touted Israel's biodiversity, desert environments and avian life and sponsored numerous trips there. One such trip was scheduled for this month. Then it wasn't. Sierra Club explained that the cancellation was because such trips are "providing legitimacy to the Israeli state, which is engaged in apartheid against the Palestinian people." Reaction was quick, and was overwhelmingly negative. Within days, Sierra Club withdrew the cancellation and promised Israeli trips in the future.

The underlying challenge to the trips was brought by one of Sierra Club's members who was supported

by a host of pro-Palestinian and anti-Zionist groups. In response to the cancellation announcement, several patrons of Sierra Club and major Jewish organizations objected to the decision and questioned why Sierra Club allowed itself to be dragged into a political issue that has no connection to the organization's mission.

Sierra Club now confirms that it is

those whose sole objective is the delegitimization of Israel.

But the naiveté of Sierra Club pales in comparison to the breathtakingchutzpah of the U.S. director of Amnesty International, Paul O'Brien, who told the Women's National Democratic Club in Washington that Amnesty International is "opposed to the idea ... that Israel should be pre-

The naiveté of Sierra Club pales in comparison to the breathtakingchutzpah of the U.S. director of Amnesty International, Paul O'Brien.

committed to the enjoyment, exploration and protection of the planet and that it doesn't take positions on foreign policy matters. We hope that's true, and that Sierra Club recognizes the folly of allowing its mission and credibility to be hijacked by

served as a state for the Jewish people." In response to the uproar over the offensiveness of those remarks, O'Brien claimed that what he said didn't express what he wanted to say. We find that hard to believe since O'Brien continues to assert

that he doesn't trust the polls saying that American Jews support Israel. Instead, O'Brien, who is not Jewish, has the temerity to declare: "My gut tells me that what Jewish people in this country want is to know that there's a sanctuary that is a safe and sustainable place that the Jews, the Jewish people can call home." And he posits that "[American Jews] can be convinced over time that the key to sustainability is to adhere to what I see as core Jewish values, which are to be principled and fair and just in creating that space." O'Brien's objective is a one-state arrangement where neither Jews nor Palestinians have the right to self-determination.

O'Brien's ignorance is breathtaking. And we reject his gut-driven declaration that Israel "shouldn't exist as a Jewish state." Amnesty International's continued support of O'Brien confirms that the human rights organization has lost its way and its credibility. Were we to listen to our gut, Amnesty International should cease to exist. **JE**

Antisemitism in the Curriculum

Over the past several years concerns have been raised over antisemitic and anti-Zionist content being baked into school curricula. And in this case, it's not Palestinian or Arab State education materials that are being criticized. Rather, the focus has been upon otherwise commendable state efforts to develop ethnic studies model curricula to teach students about the histories, experiences, contributions and struggles of minority groups. Several groups, including the Jewish community, have expressed concern. While some communities like Sikhs and Armenians protested their exclusion from some drafts, the Jewish community was critical of the presentation of the American Jewish experience and for including antisemitic language and anti-Israel content.

Earlier this month, Rep. Josh Gottheimer (D-N.J.) sent a letter

to Secretary of Education Miguel Cordona to share his concerns about the issue. Gottheimer's letter discusses how some school districts are considering curricula that claim that "criticism of Israel's policies of apartheid and oppression of Palestinians is not antisemitism." And he notes that such a claim goes against the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism, which includes denying the Jewish people the right to self-determination, such as by claiming Israel is a racist endeavor. Gottheimer called on the Department of Education to ensure that schools don't teach bigoted curricula and for a "united, bipartisan and national commitment" to address antisemitism.

Among those copied on Gottheimer's letter was California Gov. Gavin Newsom. California's state board of education has

weathered what is now a four-year battle over an ethnic studies curriculum that was initially highly criticized and then revised to address many of the concerns raised by the Jewish community and others. The revised curriculum was unanimously adopted last week. Despite many positive changes, some members of the Jewish community are still concerned about the curriculum content. For now, California's model curriculum is optional, and schools in the state are not required to offer it. But pending legislation to make a high school ethnic studies course a graduation requirement will almost certainly reignite the debate on a multitude of concerns expressed by the Jewish community and others.

While we see the merit of educating primary and secondary school students on ethnic studies and minority community issues, we are troubled

by the unrelenting efforts of those who seek to manipulate the process to promote antisemitic content, delegitimize Israel and challenge the right of Jews to self-determination. Antisemitism and the security of our community are a continuing concern. In addition to disquieting high-profile incidents we see rising antisemitism in more subtle places — like in the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement and anti-Israel rhetoric on college campuses — and we see it festering in unchecked ethnic studies curricula proposals.

Good education can be an antidote to hate and discrimination. But the process takes work and requires a nuanced sensitivity to significant issues of concern to each minority community. We encourage continued vigilance by our community and applaud the supportive efforts of Gottheimer. We invite other members of Congress to join the effort. **JE**



Ukraine, Russia and the Unbearable Lightness of ‘Never Again’

BY YEHUDA KURTZER

After decades of fearing that we would forget the horrors of our recent past, I am starting to fear the opposite possibility: that we Jews remember our history all too well but feel powerless to act on its lessons.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine invites analogies to our traumatic past. History begs us to learn from what came before. These analogies to the past are never perfect. Seeing analogies between past and present does not mean we think that anything that happened in the past would be identical to anything happening in the present.

For comparisons to be useful, however, they need not be exact. It is enough for us as Jews to see familiarity in the past and resemblance in the present. We do this to activate our sense of responsibility, to ask if we have seen this plot point before, to figure out how we are supposed to act in the story to change the inevitability of the outcome. We become different people when we remember, as the past merges with the present and points to the choices we might make.

But now: What if we remember well, but cannot act upon it? Will Jewish memory become a prison of our powerlessness?

I grew up believing that appeasement was just one rung above fascist tyranny itself, and at times possibly worse: Appeasers replace responsibility with naivete and facilitate demonic evil even when they know better. The narrative of the West juxtaposes Churchill the hero with Chamberlain the villain; the philosopher Avishai Margalit uses Chamberlain as the archetype of the “rotten compromise,” for making concessions that make people skeptical of the morality of compromise altogether. I know that the sanctions regime imposed against Putin’s Russia and his oligarchs are the most severe in history, and still I wonder: What is the threshold of appeasement, and will we know if we have crossed it?

We still debate FDR’s decision not to bomb the train tracks leading to Auschwitz. It was a viable option, and we know this because Jewish leaders pleaded with American officials to consider it, and they decided against it. None of us has any idea whether such a bombing operation would have succeeded, much less whether it would have made a dent in the Final Solution. But our memory of the story makes us wonder whether it might have, and it makes us furiously study the current invasion, seeking opportunities for a similar intervention.



At the same time, we fear that we will only know what actions we should have taken a long time from now, and that our children will study such actions with the same helplessness that plagues us when we read about FDR’s decisions.

My great-grandparents came to America well before World War II. But I have read about and feel chastened by America’s turning away Jewish refugees during the war. I am in shock watching the largest and fastest-developing refugee crisis unfolding before us and seeing our country failing to participate in a proportionate way — given our size and economic power — to the absorption and resettlement efforts. Why do we have a museum celebrating American intervention in wartime, as we do in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and why do we have such a profound educational apparatus focused on helping Americans understand how to not be a bystander, if not for moments like this?

It is not hard to imagine the museum that will one day mark this unfolding atrocity.

Our insistence on memory — and the belief that it will change things — never quite works. This is because the invocation of memory can be banal, and because it can pull us apart. “Never again” is everywhere now — Meir Kahane’s appeal to Jewish self-defense became a rallying cry to prevent genocide, a banner to fight immigrant detention, a

slogan for schools and gun control. And whatever we wanted the legacy of the Shoah to be, we have in no case been successful. American presidents mouthed these words seriously even as they failed to intervene, or intervened too late, to stop genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Darfur, Syria and elsewhere. If the fear was forgetting, it was unfounded. But remembering and acting on the memory is something else entirely. The legacy of our past indicts us when we can’t carry the former into the latter.

I never expected — even watching the politics of memory pull apart the legacy of remembering for opposing political ends — that we would shift from a fear of forgetting to the fear that comes with remembering. The past glares at us now, it revisits us every day in the news cycle, and I am scared. It is not because we have forgotten it, but precisely because we remember it, and we do not know how to heed it. **JE**

Yehuda Kurtzer is the president of the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America and host of the Identity/Crisis podcast.

Letters should be related to articles that have run in the print or online editions of the JE, and may be edited for space and clarity prior to publication. Please include your first and last name, as well your town/neighborhood of residence. Send letters to letters@jewisheponent.com.



Amnesty's Blinkered Anti-Zionism Is a Recipe for Disaster

BY LYN JULIUS

“The right of people to self-determination is something I believe in ... but we are opposed to the idea that Israel should be preserved as a state for the Jewish people.”

Amnesty's blinkered anti-Zionism is a recipe for disaster. Paul O'Brien, the non-Jewish executive director of Amnesty International USA, stirred up a storm of protest with this self-contradictory statement, despite attempts to walk it back. There was a good reason for this: O'Brien appears to believe that all peoples are entitled to self-determination — except the Jews. There's a name for that kind of double standard — antisemitism. For this alone, O'Brien deserves the opprobrium heaped upon him.

With what would O'Brien replace a Jewish state?

“Jewish people want to know that there's a sanctuary that is a safe and sustainable place that the Jewish people can call home,” he told a Women's National Democratic Club audience. “The key to sustainability is to adhere to what I see as core Jewish values, which are to be principled and fair and just in creating that space.”

It could be argued that Jews enjoy a place of safety in the United States. Although, if you are an ultra-Orthodox Jew in New Jersey, for example, your sense of safety might be fraying at the edges. But to project the values of a pluralistic democracy on to the Middle East, as O'Brien does, smacks of mind-blowing naiveté.

In O'Brien's dystopian scenario for a de-Judaized Israel, the Law of Return that grants all diaspora Jews Israeli citizenship would be abrogated, giving them nowhere to flee if necessary. “Hatikvah” would cease to be the national anthem. And, very quickly, Israel would become a majority-Arab state.

The Arab world is full of failed and authoritarian states. Its record on democracy and pluralism is disastrous. And tellingly, with the exception of tiny communities in the Gulf and Morocco, the Arab world is now judenrein. In the wake of the Jewish exodus from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) in the 1940s, '50s and '60s, Yazidis, Maronites, Baha'is, Copts, Assyrians and Chaldeans have streamed out as well. The Arab world's failure to establish a society respectful of dissent, of minority and women's rights, promises a bleak future of subjugation and intolerance.

Ironically, the million Jews who fled the MENA region they had inhabited since 1,000 years before the rise of Islam were victims of “apartheid” by Amnesty International's own definition: “deprivation, segregation, fragmentation and dispossession.” Amnesty's silence on this massive injustice is deafening. And, needless to say, the 650,000 Jews who sought a haven in Israel from Arab and Muslim countries and now form a majority of Israeli Jews did not escape in order to find themselves once more under Arab-Muslim domination.

Until the colonial era granted them greater security, Jews occupied a space in the Muslim polity — “the Jewish quarter in an Arab town.” They lived as inferior “dhimmis” at the mercy of

the ruler of the day and paid him the jizya tax, i.e. protection money. Under a benevolent ruler, the Jews could thrive.

At other times, they could not escape violence and oppression. They might have exercised influence as courtiers or advisers, but they never exercised power. To them, the “core Jewish values” evoked by O'Brien meant powerlessness — knowing your place, keeping your head down and accepting “dhimmitude,” which was, again, apartheid according to Amnesty itself. For all intents and purposes, O'Brien is advocating that Jews revert to their former status as a vulnerable minority.

It is likely that the Jews Paul O'Brien meets are the type who belong to Jewish Voice for Peace, delusional liberals who are willing to trade in Jewish sovereignty for his “core Jewish values.” These individuals aim “to promote Jewish powerlessness once again, in an effort to restore the apparent moral purity of a Jewish powerless existence,” as the Israeli academic and former politician Einat Wilf puts it.

Holocaust survivors, Ethiopian Jews, Soviet Jews, Middle Eastern and North African Jews and now Ukrainian Jews have found an unconditional haven in a sovereign Jewish state that is committed to defending them. They all know that Jewish powerlessness is a luxury that liberal American Jews may aspire to, but most Israeli Jews can ill afford. **JE**

Lyn Julius is the author of “Uprooted: How 3,000 Years of Jewish Civilization in the Arab World Vanished Overnight” (Vallentine Mitchell, 2018).



Bills Attacking LGBTQ Rights Are an Assault on Jewish Values

BY IDIT KLEIN AND IS PERLMAN | JTA

We are alarmed by the surge of legislative attacks on the rights, safety and dignity of LGBTQ youth across the nation.

Among over 100 pending anti-LGBTQ bills are the recently passed “Don't Say Gay Bill” in Florida and the terrifying equation of trans-affirming health care with child abuse by the governor of Texas.

We are a queer Jewish communal professional and a nonbinary Jewish college student. We recognize that now is a time when we must fight for ourselves, and we call on our beloved Jewish community to join us in our fight for the rights of LGBTQ people everywhere.

One of us, Is Perlman, grew up in Florida and was blessed with parents who supported the start of their medical transition there. Despite that love and affirmation, Is endured years of self-loathing and shame

due to the onslaught of anti-trans rhetoric in their local communities and the broader world. Indeed, Is was one of the 40% of trans and nonbinary young people who attempt suicide by age 24. They've shared that it was only when they met other LGBTQ Jewish teens and adult mentors through a Shabbaton organized by Keshet — a national organization working for LGBTQ equality in the Jewish community — that they came to understand themselves as not just worthy of basic dignity, but as a holy person who is made in the image



This is Real War

GERSHON BLORITZKY | JNS

of the Divine.

If Is were still a high school student in Florida today, any reference to their identity or experience as a nonbinary person could be banned under the newly-passed “Don’t Say Gay” law. For the many LGBTQ youth who live in Florida, this bill serves to further marginalize a group that already experiences severe stigma and isolation.

Legislators should be supporting educators to ensure that all students have access to affirming, safe learning environments where they can grow and evolve in the fullness of their identities. Instead, Florida legislators — and legislators in the dozens of states around the country that have introduced anti-LGBTQ legislation — are playing politics with the lives of LGBTQ youth and undermining their basic humanity. Do not be fooled by these politicians’ rhetoric. Do speak out to condemn how this law will spark shame and fear among LGBTQ youth and no doubt threaten their safety and even lives.

In Texas, the governor directed the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to open child abuse investigations of parents who provide gender-affirming care for their trans children. This means that parents who support their trans kids and help them access the health care they need may be subject to investigation that could lead to their children being taken away. Imagine the terror that parents of trans kids and the kids themselves are now experiencing.

Thankfully, an ACLU lawsuit has thus far blocked its implementation, but we don’t know if they will succeed in permanently stopping this destructive policy. Already, Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston, the largest pediatric hospital in the country, announced that it will no longer prescribe gender-affirming hormone therapies. Hospital officials cited the governor’s directive as the reason for the change. Similarly, numerous parents of trans kids report that pharmacies are refusing to fill prescriptions and insurance companies are pulling coverage.

It has been nearly 40 years since legislation was first proposed to outlaw discrimination based on sexual orientation, with gender identity added more recently. We have been active in a national Jewish community campaign led by Keshet to support the passing of the Equality Act that would

at long last give LGBTQ people the civil rights protections that everyone deserves in their homes, jobs, public services and more.

At 18 years old, Is has already spoken publicly in multiple settings about what enabled them to survive their teenage years as a young trans person: access to trans-affirming health care and connections with other queer Jewish youth. Speaking with such vulnerability is never easy. But Is continues to do so because they understand the catastrophic impact of threats to the safety and wellbeing of trans youth everywhere.

Polls consistently tell us that a clear majority of American Jews support LGBTQ civil rights. We know from our own experience in the “Yes on 3” campaign to preserve transgender rights in Massachusetts that when called upon, our Jewish communities do take action: Over 70% of synagogues and other Jewish organizations played an active role in the campaign and helped us win. This is just one of many examples we could offer of how American Jewish communities have moved to take meaningful action on LGBTQ rights issues.

The crisis for LGBTQ young people, especially trans youth, should concern all of us. There are so many ways to make a difference: speak out against harmful legislation with your state legislators and urge your senators to pass the Equality Act; mobilize people in your local Jewish community or organize an educational program; tell a trans kid in your life that they can count on your support. We need every Jewish community member to recognize this time as a time for action. Only then will all LGBTQ youth be able to live with safety, dignity and the certainty that they, like every human being, are indeed holy.

We know from Is’ experience, and that of countless other trans young people, that trans-affirming care is the opposite of abuse; it is health care. Often, it is life-saving care. As a community whose highest value is pikuach nefesh, saving a life, we call on Jews everywhere to say to trans youth: Your life matters and we will fight to save it. **JE**

Idit Klein is the president and CEO of Keshet. Is Perlman is a Jewish nonbinary first year student at Columbia University and a Keshet youth leader.

For most people, when the images of Russian tanks approaching Ukraine’s border began to be broadcast around the world, it was something looked upon as news from a distant front — horrific, but very far away.

But for me, who lives in Ukraine, this was life, and it was all too real.

At first, most people around here said that it was just Russian President Vladimir Putin being Putin, and that he wouldn’t invade. I wasn’t at all sure and thought he very might well invade, so I made the decision to buy airline tickets for my family to escape to Israel. My wife and five children (ages 6 to 14) were able to get on the very last flight out of Ukraine destined for Israel.

I stayed behind because I knew my help would be needed. Together with the chief rabbi of Ukraine, we began to look for solutions to an escalating crisis. We were able to find a path for many Jews living in the larger cities to flee. We set up hotels along the border where the refugees would be able to stay. We bought food, medicine and basic supplies, and on that last night before the Russians invaded, we were able to evacuate dozens of people who never in their lives thought they would see such a shocking day.

When the sounds of bombing began at 4 a.m., we were already in the shelters. Over the course of the day, as people realized what we were facing, the roads became jam-packed with people trying to head west. Many people who wanted to escape weren’t able to find transportation. Many bus drivers simply were afraid to drive fearing they could be struck by the enemy at any time on the road.

Over the course of that first day, we desperately worked to help people into shelters. By Shabbat (a day later), we saw the Russian air force attacking and thought it was just a matter of time before our hideout would be hit by a rocket. Because of the immediate danger to our lives, we were permitted to drive on Shabbat; however, we had no idea which direction was the best to take or which roads might lead us directly into danger. We had to make sure that we weren’t driving toward a Russian army brigade or that we wouldn’t get stuck in the middle of a battlefield. I can’t hon-

estly tell you which roads we took, but by Motzei Shabbat (Saturday evening), we had reached the border crossing.

You need to understand that people are fleeing with literally nothing to their names. This is real war. They are running out of their homes after being told that there’s a bus to leave on, and they jump aboard without asking any questions. Where possible, they grab some clothing, critical documents and some money, and they just run.

At the border, they arrive completely exhausted; physically and emotionally. Every day, I meet hundreds of Jewish refugees, and I do whatever I can to help them and set them on their way. Shorashim has set up a hotline that helps anyone who wants to make aliyah and to assist them in getting the necessary documentation. We are working 24 hours a day, and the phones never stop ringing. War doesn’t care about the time of day or whether it’s light outside; no matter the hour we need to be available.

Within those masses of refugees are countless incredibly difficult stories. Many of those women and children you see on the news are leaving behind husbands and fathers who are fighting, and they truly don’t know if they will ever see them again.

One family that we have helped comes from the town of Irpin, close to Kyiv. They lived for two weeks under almost constant attack from Chechen forces, who are known to be among the most brutal soldiers serving the Russian army. Miraculously, they were able to flee and are now in a far safer area — still in Ukrainian territory but along the Hungarian border. They are now thinking about their next steps with the likelihood that they will soon call Israel their new home. And we will be there to help them, and a growing number of families like them, to make that possible.

Despite the awful images and painful stories I’m seeing and hearing, I choose to be optimistic. I chose to think that if a war has a beginning, then it will also have an end. Our greatest prayer is that it will be here very, very soon. **JE**

Gershon Bloritzky works in Ukraine with Shorashim, a project of the Tzohar Rabbinical Organization that provides Jewish identification services.

Second-Night Seders — Serve Sephardi Symbolic Foods

LINDA MOREL | SPECIAL TO JE

Whenever I've hosted seders on the second night of Passover, I've worried — probably needlessly — that I should offer the family and friends at my table something different than what they had the night before.

The main course is easy to juggle. There are alternatives to brisket and potato kugel. But what about the hard-boiled eggs, apple and walnut haroset and gefilte fish?

Two decades ago, I began expanding my Passover horizons. While my family had come to America from Germany and Lithuania in the 1880s, most of my friends also had roots deep in Ashkenazi countries.

I sought out Sephardi Jews and researched Passover recipes from Mediterranean Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Because the Sephardi Jews I met had emigrated from warm climates, their ceremonial seder foods were fresh and light, brimming with green vegetables and herbs and bursting with sun-kissed dates.

Variations started with the karpas, the green vegetable representing spring. While Ashkenazi Jews dip parsley in salt water to represent the tears of the Hebrew slaves in Egypt, Sephardim dip celery into a bowl of vinegar to symbolize the harshness of slavery.

In Morocco, haroset comes in the form of balls that are made from ground nuts, raisins and dates, wrapped in lettuce, representing the greenery of spring. One bite creates a burst of sweetness so much more subtle than sugar but equally compelling.

Food writer Edda Servi Machlin describes in her cookbook, "The Classic Cuisine of the Italian Jews," the frittatas Italian Jews enjoy at Passover. This tempting egg dish can be served in place of hardboiled eggs and will enliven any seder menu.

Many French Jews serve cold-poached salmon and a creamy, dairy-free herb sauce. More colorful than its cousin, gefilte fish, this dish has an

elegant air that's so very French.

Because I was mesmerized by an entirely new repertoire of seder foods, I simply had to prepare them at Passover. I knew sharing these foods with loved ones would not only give them an adventure in dining, but an opportunity to step beyond the Ashkenazi world of Central and Eastern Europe, where most American Jews are from.

Why is the second night of Passover different at my house from all other nights? Because we are trying Jewish food we never had before and opening our tastebuds to a real treat.

Moroccan Haroset | Pareve

Yield: 30-34 haroset balls

- 1 cup each: pitted dates, raisins, blanched almonds and walnuts
- 2 tablespoons grape juice
- 20 lettuce leaves cut in half
- Optional: matzah broken into squares

Fit a food processor with a metal blade. (If the bowl of your food processor isn't large enough to hold all the ingredients, process the ingredients in two batches.)

Place the dates in your food processor's bowl, and process them until they have broken into tidbits the size of raisins. Add the raisins, almonds, walnuts and grape juice. Process until the nuts are finely ground and the mixture clumps together.

Using your palms, roll the mixture into balls ½-inch in diameter. If your palms become sticky, rinse them under water.

Serve the haroset balls wrapped in lettuce leaves. Or make matzah-haroset sandwiches by placing a haroset ball between two squares of matzah and wrapping lettuce around it.

Asparagus Frittata | Pareve

Serves 12 as an appetizer

Equipment: 10-inch cast-iron skillet in good condition and seasoned (coated) with oil

- 6 eggs
- Kosher salt to taste
- Freshly ground pepper to taste
- 20 asparagus spears
- 3 tablespoons olive oil, plus 1 or more
- 1 medium onion, diced finely

Break the eggs into a medium-sized bowl. Add a sprinkle of salt and pepper. Whisk until the eggs are frothy. Reserve. Snap off the fibrous ends of each asparagus spear and discard. Cut off the tips. Then slice the remainder into half-inch lengths. Reserve them with the tips.

If the broiler feature is inside your oven, place a rack on an upper rung but not on the top rung. Close the door and preheat the broiler.

On a medium flame, heat 3 tablespoons of oil in the cast-iron skillet. Add the onion and sauté until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the asparagus and 1 tablespoon of oil. Sprinkle on a little more salt. Sauté until softened but not cooked through. Add more oil at any time, if needed.

Whisk the eggs again until they are fluffy. Pour the eggs into the skillet. Shake the skillet so the eggs move evenly between the ingredients. Leave the skillet on the flame until the eggs are set at the bottom but raw at the surface.

Using an oven mitt, move the skillet to the broiler. Broil for 5 minutes, or until the eggs are completely set and golden brown. The edges may begin to brown and curl.

Using oven mitts, remove the skillet from the oven, and place it on a trivet on the counter. Place a round platter over the skillet and turn the skillet over so that the frittata slides onto the platter.

Serve immediately or cool it to room temperature. This recipe can be made 2 days ahead, if cooled, covered with plastic wrap and refrigerated.

Return the frittata to room temperature before serving or reheat in a 350-degree oven. With a serrated

knife, carefully slice it into narrow pieces.

Chilled Salmon with Herb Sauce | Pareve

Serves 8

- Nonstick vegetable spray
- Kosher salt to taste
- ⅓ teaspoon garlic powder
- 1½ lbs. salmon fillet from the thickest part of the salmon and with the skin on
- Garnish: sprigs of parsley and dill

Preheat the broiler. Line a broiler-proof pan with aluminum foil. Spray it lightly with nonstick vegetable spray.

Sprinkle the salt and garlic powder on both sides of the salmon. Place the salmon skin side up on the broiler pan. Broil it for 5 minutes. Turn the salmon and broil it for another 7-8 minutes, or until the salmon is cooked through, pink in the center, not red.

With a spatula, move the salmon to an attractive platter. Bring it to room temperature, then cover it with plastic wrap and refrigerate until chilled, at least 3 hours.

When ready to serve, decorate the platter with sprigs of parsley and dill. Serve with the herb sauce below. Cut it into 8 slices.

Herb Sauce | Pareve

Yield: 1 cup

- ⅓ cup fresh dill tightly packed
- ⅓ cup fresh parsley tightly packed
- 2 garlic cloves, coarsely chopped
- ¾ cup light mayonnaise

Place the dill and parsley into a food processor. Pulse on and off until they are chopped.

Add the remaining ingredients. Process them until the ingredients are completely chopped into a smooth green sauce.

Move the sauce to an attractive bowl, cover it with plastic wrap and refrigerate until serving. [JE](#)



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Passover: Please Pass the Flounder

KERI WHITE | SPECIAL TO JE

This meal is great year-round, but it works well for Passover, whether served for seder or just during the week as a chametz-free dinner.

The colors in the fish make for a lovely presentation, the dill delivers a fresh, springlike vibe and the celery root offers a different, slightly more exotic take on a mashed vegetable than potatoes or sweet potatoes. For any lower-carb and gluten-free diners, this meal checks the boxes, but for those of us eating without any restrictions, there is no sense of sacrifice. Best of all worlds!

To round out the main course, any spring vegetable like asparagus, string beans, peas, spinach or leafy greens are a fine addition, or perhaps a colorful green salad featuring early spring lettuce, microgreens, sliced radishes and some edible flowers would work?

Because the menu is dairy, a simple dessert of ice cream or sherbet is an ideal finish.



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PASSOVER PALATE

Flounder with Dill, Shallot and Carrots

Serves 4

I used flounder here because it was readily available and fresh at the local farmers market. Virtually any fish works with this dish: Just be sure to monitor the baking time if a thicker, hardier fish is used, as it will need longer in the oven.

As to the quantities below, you should have a sufficient amount of the carrot/shallot/dill mixture to lightly cover the fillets, so depending on the size of your vegetables, you may need 1 or 2.

- 4 flounder fillets (about 1½ pounds)
- Juice of 1 lemon
- ½ stick butter
- 1 or 2 shallots, chopped
- 1 or 2 carrots, sliced
- 1 bunch dill, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste

Heat your oven to 275 degrees F.

In a large skillet, melt the butter and sauté the shallots and carrots until soft, about 8 minutes. Add the dill, and stir until it wilts.

While the vegetables sauté, spritz the fish with half of the lemon, and sprinkle it with salt and pepper.

When the vegetables are done, remove them from the heat, scrape them to the side of the pan and place the fillets in the pan in one nonoverlapping layer. Spoon the vegetable mixture over the fish to coat, and spritz it with the remaining lemon half.

Bake the fish in your oven for about 25 minutes until done — it should be opaque throughout and flake easily.

Celery Root Puree

Serves 4

This root vegetable is not common, but in my ongoing quest to attempt to eat locally and seasonally, hardy root vegetables are my go-to these days.

Also known as celeriac, this vegetable has a mild celery flavor and a potato-like texture. In experimenting with celery root, I have discovered that it adds a welcome crunch to salads and slaws

if you don't wish to cook it.

- 1½ pounds celery root, peeled and cubed
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, sliced
- 2 cups vegetable broth
- 2 tablespoons butter
- ¼ cup cream or milk
- Salt and pepper to taste

Place the celery root, onion, garlic and broth in a pan. Bring it to a boil, lower the heat, cover and simmer it for 20 minutes or until the cubes are soft. **JE**



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Passover, Indian Style

KERI WHITE | SPECIAL TO JE

Whether you opt for a non-traditional seder with this menu or go the traditional route on a few nights with various groups of friends and family, then roll out this menu as a Passover-

friendly meal on a non-seder night is entirely your call.

This meal is tasty, healthy and offers some variety from the usual, though delicious, Passover fare.

Salmon is always a good place to start — the fish is kosher, relatively affordable and generally liked. Coating it in a flavorful sauce or relish



Photo By Kery White



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and wrapping it in parchment is also sound; the fish is robust enough to handle strong flavors, and the technique prevents the fish from drying out. Pairing it with collard greens, which are hearty and healthy, is also a power move — and these greens hold up to the strong Indian spices.

Accompanying the meal with some simply roasted white or sweet potatoes delivers a welcome contrast from the robustly flavored fish and greens and, outside of Passover, rice is a wonderful side to serve with this menu.

The sauce I used was called “Aaji’s Tomato Lonsa” and is a South Indian

sauce made with fresh tomatoes. I found it at my farmers market, and it is a stronger cook than I who could have resisted the merchant who was offering free samples and touting the recipe from his beloved “auntie.” Here’s the scoop from Aaji himself: aajis.com/.

If you can’t get the sauce from Aaji, any jarred tomato-based Indian chutney or sauce is usable, or you can simply make your own by sautéing a small chopped onion in a bit of oil with a tablespoon of grated ginger, a half teaspoon of cumin and salt, some chili pepper and a large chopped tomato and dumping this over the fish.



Passover MENU 2022

DINNERS

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1 lb. Seven Fruit Charoset
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1 lb. Applesauce
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Matzo Ball Soup for 4
1 lb. Seven Fruit Charoset
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PASSOVER PALATE

Tomato Lonsa Roasted Salmon

Serves 4

- 4 salmon fillets
- ½ lemon
- Sprinkle of salt and pepper
- ½ cup Tomato Lonsa or your favorite tomato chutney or sauce

Heat your oven to 300 degrees F.

Line a baking dish with a piece of parchment large enough to fold over on itself. Place the salmon pieces in the baking dish on the parchment and sprinkle them with lemon, salt and pepper. Spoon the sauce over each piece to coat.

Fold the parchment over the top of the fish, sealing it but leaving space above each piece — you don't want the paper lying directly on the fish. Bake the fish for about 25 minutes until it reaches its desired doneness.



Curry-spiced Collard Greens

Serves 4

You can do this with kale, mustard greens or turnip greens using the same technique. If you prefer bok choy or spinach, reduce the cooking time.

- 1 large bunch collard greens, tough stems trimmed
- 1-inch piece ginger, grated
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 tablespoon oil
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon curry powder
- Water or broth as needed

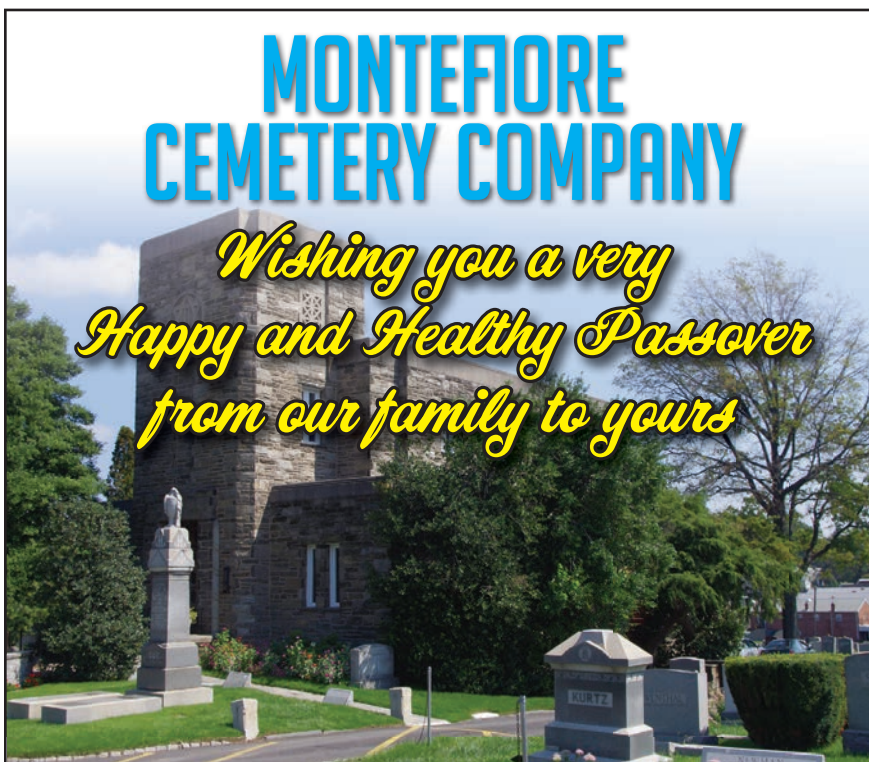
Rinse the collard greens well, and remove the tough stems. Taking 2 or 3 leaves at a time, roll them up (like a cigar) and slice them into thin ribbons.

Heat the oil in a large skillet and sauté the ginger, garlic and spices over medium until fragrant, a few minutes. Add the collard greens and stir to coat them, then continue turning them over. Add a few tablespoons of broth or water if needed to avoid burning.

Cover the greens and cook them for about 10 minutes, watching carefully so the greens don't scorch. **JE**

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Heart and Sole: Golden Slipper Celebrates 100 Years

100

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Christopher Lawrence doesn't remember the first Golden Slipper Gems event he attended four years ago, but he does remember the company he kept.

"There's a very coherent group of folks here, a regular group of folks who've been going there for years," Lawrence said. "So it was just very nice to meet in that context and to get to know each other."

Attending a lecture with his brother-in-law, Lawrence was not only struck by the unique chance to spend time with a family member but with the opportunities to spend time with like-minded folks — those who shared his love for learning — which he valued as a former educator.

Though Lawrence was new to Golden Slipper Gems, the organization was hardly new to the concept of creating community through people-oriented programming.

Golden Slipper Gems is part of the three-pronged Bala Cynwyd-based organization Golden Slipper Club & Charities, which also includes Golden Slipper Camp, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary this month. A gala will be held on March 26 at 6 p.m. at the Cescaphe Ballroom at 923 N. Second St.

Over the past century, Golden Slipper has served the Greater Philadelphia community through programming for older adults at two campuses and a summer camp serving 500 kids and providing scholarships and financial aid to those who need it.

The organization's Passover League, now a part of Gems, gives hundreds of Jews a seder to attend, who otherwise wouldn't have had a place to go; and Gems' Human Needs and Services program gives aid to those in and outside the Jewish community who may need a dental procedure, a wheelchair, a roof repair, among other needs.

Though the organization's format and programming have changed, the goal of serving the community was baked in from the start: "What I can tell you

is not going to change is the need will still be there," Golden Slipper Club & Charities Board President Dave Simon said. "Where the need is in the Jewish community and the greater community, Golden Slipper is there."

Masonic Beginnings

Golden Slipper had its genesis at the poker table when, in 1922, a group of Jewish Masons met to play cards and split their winnings. They delegated the monies to community members in need of essential goods, like coal or milk, the organization's website said, which was the prototype of the HUNAS program on which the organization still prides itself.

The organization originally was called the Golden Slipper Square

Club, with "Square" paying homage to its masonic affiliation, according to Elliot Rosen, a past president of Golden Slipper Camp and the organization's de facto historian.

A quarter-century after its founding, the Golden Slipper Square Club approached the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and asked which demographic was more in need: the elderly or youth. The Jewish Federation identified youth as the priority, and the Golden Slipper Square Club immediately



An early Golden Slipper Square Club event

Courtesy of Golden Slipper Club & Charities

Golden Slipper

began searching in the Poconos for grounds to place a summer camp.

After scouting 15 locations, the organization originally settled on a site in Tobyhanna, but after the landowners found out about the organization leaders' Jewish identities, they backed out of the deal.

Eventually, Golden Slipper bought 600 acres of land in Bartonsville, with camp President Morris Sobel raising the camp's initial \$200,000, establishing the Golden Slipper Camp in 1948, and bringing 200 young campers to the site the following year.

Providing financial aid to the camper was always a priority — and a practice that persists today — with only 15% of families paying the full camp fee of about \$12,000, according to Golden Slipper Camp President and former camper and counselor Dean Siegel. The Jewish Federation's One Happy Camper partnership helps sustain this, with campers able to receive grants of \$1,000.

"When everyone comes to camp ... and gets on the buses, all the outside and all the home stuff is left behind," Siegel said. "And when you get to camp, everybody is the same."

Rosen estimates that Golden Slipper Camp has served more than 100,000 campers over its 73 years and said it is the only remaining community camp from its time.

Changing Tides

In the 1960s, the Golden Slipper Square Club changed its identity, choosing to drop "Square" from its title as a result of also dropping the club's Masonic requirement, a decision of which Rosen was a part.

"We noticed that we weren't getting younger members to join Golden Slipper," Rosen said. "At the time, there were only four of us in the club that were under 30."

Because of the organization's affiliation with the Masonic Order of Pennsylvania, only men were allowed to be members of Golden Slipper Club, another stipulation that limited membership.

"In the '70s, the women's movement started to take hold, and women were achieving places in the philanthropic world on their own, not on their



Golden Slipper campers in 1953, five years after the camp was established

Courtesy of Jenn Scarlata

husband's dime," Rosen said. "It became evident: Times change, then the organization changes."

Golden Slipper Gems is the youngest offshoot of the organization, founded in 1995 as the Golden Slipper Center for Seniors in Wynnefield Heights. Before that location, Golden Slipper had a residential home in Northeast Philadelphia called the Uptown Home, which Golden Slipper operated from 1985-2006.

Gems now has locations at Adath Israel on the Main Line in Merion and Shir Ami in Newtown. In 2018, the organization rebranded, becoming Golden Slipper Gems.

"One word that kept coming up over and over again when talking about the staff, the people who attend, the volunteers, just everyone involved in it — we're all gems," Golden Slipper Gems 2019-2021 past President Jill Caine said.

But 2018 hardly saw the last of the organization's changes. At the onset of the pandemic, Golden Slipper Gems and Club & Charities shifted its operations to be entirely digital. Gems staff taught members how to use Zoom in a matter of weeks, and online programming was able to keep attendance up to a couple of dozen members per event.

"We do have a lot of older adults, who the virtual has been fabulous for them because they're sickly or not able to get to the program," Caine said. "So it's opened up another way of getting our programming to them."

During the pandemic, Gems' goal of providing "lifelong learning" and connection for older adults became more important to Caine.



“The mission became more urgent, honestly,” she said. “Because socialization and moving away from isolation were so important during COVID.”

The Next 100 Years

Though the shift to digital platforms was speedy and unexpected, Simon can’t imagine Golden Slipper without a digital component, hoping to continue hybrid programming as the pandemic hopefully winds down.

With a new interim executive director in former Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia Chief Operating Officer Steve Rosenberg, the organization is looking to continue to adapt to the changing times.

“We have not survived 100 years by having folks who just write the check,” Simon said. “We are a hands-on, volunteer-driven organization across the board.”

In addition to just being practical, the hybrid programming is another way that Golden Slipper needs to adapt to the changing times, and it provides an opportunity for the organization to attract younger crowds, a struggle that has remained unchanged over the past several decades, Rosen has noticed.

“Most membership organizations have suffered,” Rosen said. “Certainly during the last 20 years or so, people are just not joining organizations.”

Simon is not sure if, moving forward, Golden Slipper members will even be called “members” anymore, fully expecting the landscape of club organizations to continue to change. While he’s prepared to make some changes, he plans to keep the core of the organization intact.

“We’re not trying to reinvent the wheel,” Simon said. “What ties all of us together is the affinity of the good work that we do.”

For more information about the 100th-anniversary gala, visit goldenslipperclub.org/event/gala. JE



Golden Slipper Gems members at pre-COVID programming

Courtesy of Jill Caine



Singapore: Where Culture, Cuisine and Charm All Meet

JILL AND JORDAN PERLIN
SPECIAL TO JE

Located approximately 85 miles from the equator is one of the most vibrant, diverse and exciting places — Singapore. It is a city, state and country all in one.

Once you arrive at Singapore's Changi Airport, you may not want to leave the airport: Singaporeans describe it as a destination unto itself. It has a butterfly sanctuary, cactus garden and canopy bridge. Don't worry, though. You can enjoy these attractions when you return for your outbound flight.

The first time we visited Singapore, a friend described it as "Asia for Beginners." Almost everyone speaks English. It is, however, a cultural melting pot. People from all over the world have made Singapore their home. Many religions are practiced, including Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Buddhism. There are many temples and churches you can visit, and they are quite beautiful, such as the Buddha Tooth Relic Temple in Chinatown.

Singapore is easy to navigate, and it's extremely safe. The public transportation system (SMRT) is excellent, and taxis are plentiful. You will not need to rent a car. Once you step outside, you will instantly feel the weather. It rarely changes; it is hazy, hot and humid every day. During monsoon season, it can rain heavily in the afternoon.

Singapore abounds with sites and attractions. Two iconic structures are the Marina Bay Sands Hotel and Raffles Hotel. If you've seen the movie "Crazy Rich Asians," you will instantly recognize MBS. In addition to its guest rooms, it has a casino, restaurants and shops. You can take the elevator to the top floor and take advantage of the beautiful views during the day and at night.

Adjacent to MBS is Gardens by the Bay. If you are a nature lover, you will appreciate the Flower Dome and Cloud Forest, both of which are indoors.

The Merlion is Singapore's official mascot and symbolizes Singapore's origin as a fishing village. It is depicted as a mythical creature, with the head of

a lion and the body of a fish. It is just across the river from MBS.

The other iconic structure, the Raffles Hotel, is famous for the Singapore Sling drink, which was created in 1915.

If animals are your thing, you can see all kinds of species. There are two zoos — a day zoo and a night zoo (known as the Night Safari). If you have to choose one, we suggest choosing the Night Safari, as seeing animals active at night is a generally rare opportunity. The Jurong Bird Park has more than 5,000 birds from 400 species. Throughout Singapore, you also will notice a great deal of construction. Many Singaporeans joke that the "crane is the national bird."

Singapore is also known for its flowers. The Botanic Garden is a must-see. It is the country's first UNESCO heritage site and spans more than 60 acres. A major section of the overall garden is the National Orchid Garden, which boasts the world's largest orchid display.

For excitement and entertainment, head to Sentosa. It is an island off the southern coast and is accessible by road, cable car, pedestrian boardwalk and monorail. It has more than 50 individual attractions, including beaches, a water park, Universal Studios, an aquarium and indoor skydiving. It also has numerous hotels and restaurants. You can easily spend more than one day here.

To say that the food in Singapore is among the best in the world is an understatement.

Choices range from Michelin-star restaurants to local food courts, known as "hawker centers." Seafood is everywhere, and it is extremely fresh. Jumbo's is a favorite restaurant; the Chili Crab is like nothing else. The Lau Pa Sat Market contains over 200 food stalls.

Adjacent to the market is Boon Tat Street. It becomes "Satay Street" at night and offers some of the best satay and barbecued seafood. The Maxwell Food Center is well known for its Hainanese chicken rice, another local favorite.

For a completely different dining experience, visit Tippling Club, where the menu is known as molecular gastronomy. The prix fixe menu has over more than 10 tastings which can be



The Marina Bay Sands Hotel provides spectacular views of Singapore.

Photos by Jordan Perlin



The Buddha Tooth Relic Temple offers a stunning example of architecture.



Satay is a staple of Singaporean cuisine.



Jurong Bird Park has an amazing array of birds on display.

paired with various drinks or cocktails. Shopping can almost be considered a national pastime. There are many malls; those with higher-end stores are along Orchard Road. Many neighborhoods also have good shopping, including Little India and Chinatown.

People often discover Singapore when they are connecting en route to somewhere else. They appreciate it so much that they return. Whatever the reason for your visit, the sights, sounds and smells will stay with you.

Getting Around:

- By air — Singapore is the hub for Singapore Airlines. There have flights from all over the world. Many other airlines also fly to Singapore.
- By cruise — Several cruise lines offer sailings to Singapore.
- Within Singapore — The public transportation system (SMRT) is excellent, and taxis are plentiful.

Must-Sees and Dos for a Short Trip:

- Day Zoo or Night Safari
- Gardens by the Bay
- Botanic Gardens
- Cloud Forest

If You Have At Least 10 Days:

- 2 to 3 days in Sentosa
- Jurong Bird Park
- Some of the many churches/ temples/mosques

This Destination at a Glance:

Over 50 Advantage: It can be

expensive to get to Singapore, as it's so far from North America. Fortunately, as of this writing, the exchange rate from the U.S. dollar to the Singapore dollar is favorable.

Mobility Level: Generally low to moderate. Some activities require a

lot of walking. The heat and humidity can be difficult for individuals with breathing issues to handle.

When To Go: Check out: travel.usnews.com/Singapore/.

Where To Stay:

- Regent Hotel
- Raffles Hotel
- Swissotel Merchant Court

Special Travel Interests:

- Dining, animals and architecture **JE**

Jill and Jordan Perlin are freelance writers.



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MARCH 25 — MARCH 31

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

JEWISH SIGNS EXHIBIT

The Signs of Our Jewish Times exhibit at the Temple Judea Museum at **Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel** will be on display until March 31. What constitutes a “sign”? Admittedly, our definition is quite broadly interpreted. See for yourself. 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park. For more information: TJMuseum@kenesethisrael.org; 215-901-2656; 215-887-8700, ext. 416.

PARSHA FOR LIFE

Join Rabbi Alexander Coleman, Jewish educator and psychotherapist at the **Institute for Jewish Ethics**, at 9 a.m. for a weekly journey through the Torah portion of the week with eternal lessons on personal growth and spirituality. Go to ijethics.org/weekly-torah-portion.html to receive the Zoom link and password.

VIRTUAL CLASSES

Golden Slipper Gems is a place to connect with friends and meet new people. Our diverse speakers will stimulate your passion for learning, and you’ll keep returning to sample all that we have to offer. Click on our website and learn more about our most recent classes: goldenslippergems.org.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

JFS COCKTAIL PARTY

An evening of buckets, brackets and baskets await guests at the “It’s Game Time!” fundraiser hosted by **Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties** at Golden Nugget Casino & Hotel. Tickets are \$150 per person. The event is limited to 200 people. Contact ssimon@jfsatlantic.org or 609-822-1108 for more information. 600 Huron Ave., Atlantic City, New Jersey.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

SUSTAINABILITY CONVERSATION

What if Yardley could transition to a much more sustainable, resilient, connected and flourishing community? Join **Congregation Kol Emet** for a conversation in-person or on Zoom with local faith and lay leaders from across the community. For more information, contact Nancy Fisher at nfish2@verizon.net.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

MAHJONG GAME

Melrose B’nai Israel Emanu-El Sisterhood invites the community to join our weekly mahjong game at 7 p.m. Cost is \$36 per year or free with MBIEE Sisterhood membership. For more information, call 215-635-1505 or email office@mbiee.org. 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park.

SPEED DATING • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

Join **Be Single No More** for a night of speed dating for Jewish singles in their 20s and 30s, starting at 6:45 p.m. After the speed dating event, join us for a singles mixer to socialize more without being timed. Within 24 hours we’ll email you your matches. Email or message us at facebook.com/besinglenomore or at besinglenomore@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Courtesy of Be Single No More



TIKVAH SUPPORT GROUP

Tikvah will provide a facilitated space from 6-7 p.m. to provide support and resources to parents, family members, friends and caregivers of those with the lived experience of mental illness, facilitated by Alexis Bracy and Neen Davis. Call 215-832-0671 for details.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

BINGO WITH BARRY

Join Barry at **Tabas Kleinlife** for bingo from 12:30-3:30 p.m. on March 29, 30 and 31. Free parking and free to play with snacks available on March 30. For more information, call 215-745-3127. 2101 Strahle St., Philadelphia.

ZIONISM CONVERSATION

Join **Jewish National Fund-USA** at 7:30 p.m. for a series meant to facilitate a dialogue and expose the beautiful and diverse facets of modern Zionism. Tune in as Russell F. Robinson and Rabbi David Wolpe discuss the rabbinate’s views on Israel and the challenges and opportunities pulpit rabbis face as they lead their congregations. jnf.org/events-landing-pages/conversations-on-zionism.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Jewish Family and Children’s Service is offering this eight-session online support group for individuals who have suffered the loss of a loved one. Sessions will be held from 10:30 a.m.-noon until April 21 on Zoom, and the cost is \$144 total. Contact Rivka Goldman at 267-256-2250 or rgoldman@jfcshilly.org for more information.

JEVS WORKSHOP

At this virtual **JEVS** workshop at 11 a.m., our career coaches will share education to employment programs focused on gaining skills needed for a satisfying job that balances work, family and social distancing. jevshumanservices.org/event/upskilling-making-yourself-more-marketable-through-short-term-trainings-2.

MEN’S CLUB PROGRAM

The Congregations of Shaare Shamayim Sisterhood, Men’s Club and Chaverim announce a joint Zoom program scheduled for 7:30 p.m. The program is “Top Songs of the 40’s, 50’s, 60’s and Beyond.” The cost is \$25 and is open to all. There also is a 50/50: \$5 for one chance or \$10 for 3 chances. For details, call the CSS office at 215-677-1600. **JE**



Oh My God

BY RABBI DAVID LEVIN

Parshat Shemini

There is nothing more horrific than losing a child. The pain is overwhelming; it makes no sense. Indeed, the entire world is turned upside down. It is unnatural at the most basic of levels to bury your child.

Aaron experiences this pain in Parsha Shemini. “God’s Fire” consumes Nadav and Abihu, two of Aaron’s four sons and high priests. Aaron is speechless (ironic given his position in service with Moses) and even more instructed to continue his work with no time for him to grieve.

The unvarnished brutality of the world inflicts itself, and there is no protection from it, no matter how well we tried to live or how well we tried to teach our children. We do our best, but this unimaginable thing can touch us even in a world where we think we are doing everything as we should. Thankfully, most of us do not confront this horrible loss. And no one other than those who have walked this path can know the depths of its pain.

Our sages have struggled with God’s killing of Nadav and Abihu, particularly for offenses that appear minor. Some have argued that they were overzealous and tried to do more than the ritual required of them; others such as Rashi posit it was because the two were inebriated.

Frankly, we do not know why God killed them. Our portion prompts every God-fearing person to question why God would take a child under any circumstances. And then, we must confront the reality of continuing to live after such a tragic, inexplicable loss. How impossible a task this is. But it is not about some intangible other in some far-off place. This horrifying situation is about us and our need to personalize these tragedies. We cannot ignore them, for we place our humanity in peril. It is not about “them” or “over

there”; it is about us right now.

I think about Vladek Spiegelman, the father of Art Spiegelman, author of “Maus,” and Otto Frank, the father of Anne. I think of the people I have tried to comfort as a chaplain. I think of the mothers and fathers of Ukraine and the 20 other major conflicts that are killing children worldwide; I think of the violence of our inner cities and the slaughter of children in school shootings.

My heart goes out to the millions of people whose world is shattered beyond recognition. What can I do besides sit in grief?

Viktor Frankl, a Holocaust survivor and creator of logotherapy, taught that although we cannot control what has happened to us, even at the hands of others, we can control how we respond to even the most horrible things. But I often find myself lost.

Even as one who serves as a disaster spiritual care team responder for mass casualty events, I grapple with the enormity of the sadness. But there are three things that each of us can do.

We can offer prayers of gratitude; indeed, there but for the grace of God, go I.

We can console those who grieve.

We can work to stop the preventable losses.

What are you willing to do to prevent the things that are killing our children? As the saying goes, there are none so blind as those who will not see. Will you open your eyes and your hearts to the children?

For those of us blessed not to know such tragedy and grief, we must share our blessings with those less fortunate. Here are four groups dedicated to helping those in need:

Support refugee aid through HIAS at hias.org/.

Provide medical assistance through Doctors without Borders at doctorswithoutborders.org/

Provide food to the hungry through World Central Kitchen at wck.org/.

Support an end to gun violence

through Moms Demand Action at momsdemandaction.org/.

Many other groups provide humanitarian support to those in need, and many groups are promoting political activism to stop the violence. Support the ones that resonate with you. However, the blessings that are uniquely ours also come with a special responsibility. Protecting the vulnerable promotes the welfare of everyone, including ourselves.

As Jews, we know all too well the suffering of the oppressed. And it is part of the American experience as well. Right now, you can help lessen the suffering of those victims of violence through your gifts of time, money and a generous heart. Be part of that change. **JE**

Rabbi David Levin is the founder and director of Jewish Relationships Initiative, a not-for-profit dedicated to helping seekers of meaning through the Jewish wisdom tradition. The Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia is proud to provide diverse perspectives on Torah commentary for the Jewish Exponent. The opinions expressed in this column are the author’s own and do not reflect the view of the Board of Rabbis.



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Jewish Exponent Cartoonist Stuart Goldman Dies at 74

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Stuart “Stu” Goldman, the former editorial cartoonist and art director/graphics editor for the Jewish Exponent, died on March 3 at his home in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He was 74.

Goldman worked for the Exponent from 1981 until his retirement in 2009, drawing comics that reflected the tone of the Jewish news of the day.

An April 29, 2013 Exponent article outlines a few of his comics that won first place for best editorial cartoon by the Philadelphia Society of Professional

Journalists, which included “Sharon’s Shoes” about the plight of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert on succeeding Ariel Sharon and ‘Did You See This?’ about Islamist attempts to impose censorship on the West.”

“They were always spot-on and very perceptive,” Luci Scott, a former Jewish Exponent staff member and colleague of Goldman’s from 1983 to 1993, said of Goldman’s comics.

Goldman also won multiple Noah Bee Awards in the newspaper sub-categories of “Editorial Cartooning” or “Illustrating in All.” Between his work at the Exponent and the Philadelphia publication The Welcomat, where he published his “Eavesdrawings”



“Jewish Voter Roll,” a 1988 political cartoon by Goldman

Courtesy of the Temple University Special Collections Research Center



Stuart Goldman was described by his wife Naomi Goldman as a “punster.”

Courtesy of Naomi Goldman

cartoons, he was syndicated in more than 75 publications, according to his wife Naomi Goldman.

Sometimes not politically correct but almost always funny, Goldman wasn’t afraid to speak his mind, his wife remembers.

“If you met Stu, you might have been put off by his sense of humor or what he might have said,” she said. “He might have said something that people were thinking but didn’t say out loud.”

Born in Kensington, Goldman attended Haverford High School and Kutztown College, receiving a bachelor’s in art education in 1971.

He took up an interest in drawing as a young child and was deemed “difficult” to parent, Naomi Goldman said.

“He always said, when he went to his room when he was being punished, he just started to draw,” Naomi Goldman said. “It just flowed from his head to his hand.”

Goldman taught graphic design at the Hussian School of Art and the Art Institute of Philadelphia, where former student Annmarie Hafer recalled Goldman going “above and beyond” to assist his students.

According to Hafer, Goldman believed that he could teach anyone how to draw but couldn’t instruct

students on how to think critically or effectively editorialize cartoons.

“He looked for those students that were good at communication or liked to write — and he didn’t play favorites, don’t get me wrong — but he saw us, and he pushed us a little bit harder than everyone else,” Hafer said.

Goldman’s perspective that informed his cartoons was shaped by his unique experiences as a young person, Hafer believed.

“He had the perspective of a lot of different types of people going into his art and going into his political cartoons,” Hafer said.

In between his time in college and teaching and drawing professionally in Philadelphia, Goldman served in the Navy during the Vietnam War on the USS New Jersey. He had the vulnerable task of loading torpedoes on the side of the boat, eventually earning him the title of petty officer third class.

Goldman also couldn’t help but lend his talents for entertainment while on the ship, drawing comics in his downtime. During Goldman’s time in the Navy, actor and comedian Bob

Hope visited and performed for the troops, and Goldman was responsible for archiving the shows’ recordings and organizing the reel tapes.

“Every time the tape ended when they were shooting the performance, Stu would do the cataloging and make sure that it was accurate information,” Naomi Goldman said.

Though Goldman seldom talked about his time in Vietnam, “he was proud to show” where he served, his wife said. Later in life, he taught T’ai Chi Chih to other Vietnam vets.

In addition to drawing cartoons, Goldman developed an affinity for stained glass during his time in Fort Lauderdale and eventually became the managing editor for GLASScraftman Magazine.

Through the magazine, Goldman met Randy Wardell, who was assigned to write Goldman’s profile for the publication. The two became fast friends.

“The neat thing about Stu was, he was an adventurer,” Wardell said. “He would try anything.”

Goldman signed the two of them up for ukulele lessons one year and took them paddleboarding on another occasion.



The Jewish Exponent staff in the 1980s with Goldman in the front row, far right

Photo by Scott Weiner

Both Wardell and Naomi Goldman remember Stuart Goldman’s wide range of hobbies, which also included being a certified glider pilot and parachutist. He was a “punster” who enjoyed making up parody songs to sing and strum along with his ukulele.

“We laughed a lot in the 35 years that we were together,” Naomi Goldman said. “We laughed a lot.”

Goldman is survived by his wife, and other relatives. **JE**

srogelberg@jewishexponent.com

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GALPERN

RUTH (nee Kline) on March 18, 2022. Beloved wife of the late Gilbert; Loving mother of Arthur (Nina) Galpern, Mark (Mindy Trost) Galpern and the late Janet Shoemaker; Mother-in-law of Jay Shoemaker. Also survived by 6 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Contributions in her memory may be made to Hadassah, 1518 Walnut St. Ste. 402, Phila., PA 19102.

WWW.GOLDSTEINSFUNERAL.COM
GOLDSTEIN'S ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS

GOLDMAN

Stuart "Stu" Goldman, a multiple award winning syndicated cartoonist, illustrator and a really funny guy, died March 3, 2022 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He was 74. Stu produced illustrations for the Philadelphia Jewish Exponent from 1981 until his retirement in 2009. For many years he also served as a regular and featured cartoonist for a variety of periodicals. During his time in Philadelphia he produced a cartoon in the "Welcomat", a weekly publication, known as "Eavesdrawings". The cartoon illustrated eavesdropped true conversations heard throughout the city of Philadelphia. At the height of his syndication, Stu's editorial cartoons were featured in over 75 publications. His cartoons and illustrations used political satire to comment on issues that affected his own community as well as those of national and international importance. His cartoons and caricatures have been reproduced in academic books on psychology and child development. They have been exhibited in museums and various shows in the United States, Canada, Hungary, Japan and London. Stu was born in New Kensington, PA, a graduate from Haverford High School and Kutztown College where he received a BS in Art Education. In 1971, he was elected into the 1970-71 "Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges" for his work in educational television. During his time in the US Navy, Stu served on the USS New Jersey, in Viet Nam, and was the recipient of various commendations and ribbons. After the Navy, he worked in television and radio in Denver Colorado. During this time, he also created and published a comic strip as well as writing and illustrating for a variety of local and national magazines. When he wasn't writing, he was doing caricatures at the famous Casa Bonita Restaurant. In 1981, he returned to Philadelphia and began his two plus decade long relationship with the Jewish Exponent as editorial cartoonist and later as the art director/graphics editor. During this time, his artistic talent was recognized by winning numerous Noah Bee Awards for Excellence in Editorial Cartooning or Illustrating in All newspapers. While in Philadelphia, he taught at the Art Institute of Philadelphia and Hussian School of Art. He relished in teaching and guiding future artists, bringing out the best in them, their hands and their minds.

Always looking for new avenues to pursue,

Stu took up stained glass as a hobby, creating beautiful and unusual pieces of art glass. Subsequently, he became the managing editor of GLASScraftman Magazine and was Artist in Residence in a stained glass studio in Florida. He authored three books on the genre of art glass. But wait, there's more. After his retirement and being someone who wasn't into fishing or golf, Stu became very interested in Tai Chi Chih, first as a student, and then becoming a certified instructor in the moving meditation. He taught many classes to the young and old, but his most rewarding were the veterans he taught at a local Vet Center. Stu had a varied and eclectic set of interests that kept him busy. Over the years he was a licensed glider and hang glider pilot, parachutist, scuba diver, voracious sci-fi reader, watcher of old westerns, ukulele strummer and song parody writer, story writer for television and a very funny stand up comedian. With his acerbic, almost quirky sense of humor, quick wit and being a punster extraordinaire, who always thought 'outside of the box', he brought much joy, laughter, thoughtful conversations and long lasting memories to all who crossed his path. Now his show is over.... drop the mic!!!! Stu is survived by his wife, Naomi, his four legged companions, Jack and Kiqui, numerous friends and family, grateful students and colleagues and Renzie, his very compassionate caregiver. Memorial Donations may be made to:

TCC Foundation, PO Box 11,
Norwood, PA 19074



MAZIE

Martin Julius Mazie 1933-2022 Our beloved dad, Martin Mazie, left this world peacefully on March 4th, 2022, after a long battle with COPD and Dementia, just two months after our mom, Loretta, the love of his life, has passed. He leaves behind 4 daughters, Shellie Dickstein (Philip), Dani Segal (Dan), Jody Ludwig (Marc), Kim Novick (Steven), 8 grand children, their spouses, and 10 great grand children, all who he adored and cherished very much! At a young age, Marty, spent much of his time working and learning the family grocery and then liquor store business. He went on to attend Rider College, in Trenton, NJ, on a football scholarship which he passionately played as number 22. There he studied business and graduated with a BA. After college he took an interest in Real Estate and Insurance and dabbled a little in both. During this time he met and fell in love with a beautiful woman named Loretta and they stayed married for almost 70 years! During the years he raised his family in Cinnaminson, NJ, he

made a living working at Mazie's Liquor Store in Pennsauken, NJ. He eventually went out on his own and bought Westville Liquor Mart and restaurant in Westville, NJ and worked many years to make it a success! Dad also had a passion for collecting rare wines and whiskies in collectible bottles and mounted an impressive collection. His favorite past times included, fishing, boating, golfing and piloting. When we were young we remember a spirited day when dad co-piloted a plane and surprisingly flew over the house so we could wave at him. He became an avid golfer and enjoyed playing most of his life. He and Loretta were active members of Temple Sinai, involved in play productions. Marty was also on the board of the mens club and a member of The Mizpah Masonic Lodge. He also enjoyed many summers on the beach and boardwalk with family and friends in Ventnor and Atlantic City, NJ. After his children were in college, Marty and Loretta decided to build their dream home and move to Boynton Beach Florida. At this time he had sold the liquor business and worked different jobs towards his move out of state. He drove a limousine before moving to Florida and once they moved he became manager of a BP oil station and mart for over 15 years. He later worked his favorite job at Kings Point Country Club Golf Course in Delray Beach, Florida for many years until his retirement. Marty and Loretta built a beautiful home in Florida which became the families vacation destination for all their children, and extended families and friends to enjoy year after year, making many happy memories there! His family and friends always speak of Marty as a kind, gentle, and always a fun loving man who adored his wife and children. Dad, you are loved and will be greatly missed! You're at peace now and with mom forever! Please make donations to the Alzheimer's Association, American Kidney Fund, and the COPD Foundation.

SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPELS

NIMTON

Ruth Warwick Nimton, wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, died March 11, 2022 just shy of her 102nd birthday. In 1943, she and Joseph Gold, also of Chester, PA eloped. Joe died in 1964, and Ruth remarried to Carl Nimton in 1969. She and Carl retired to Florida in 1991. Ruth had a great love of family, and her children remember large and lively weekly dinners with their parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. She had an extraordinary memory. All family members counted on Ruth to learn their family history as well as the history of the Chester Jewish community. She was an active golfer for many years, and an astute bridge player well into her late 90s. She was a proud grandmother, and she and Carl loved to have adventures with their grandchildren. She and Carl also traveled widely. Ruth was an avid reader, kept up with domestic and international events,

and loved to watch the TV pundits. In her final years, she enjoyed movies from the 1940s and 50s. In her last 7 years, Ruth was cared for by an extraordinary group of health care aides who showed her love and respect. This allowed her to continue living in her home in Florida. Her children are deeply grateful to these women who showed deep compassion, and helped her maintain her dignity to the very end.

Ruth Nimton is survived by her children, Eva Gold (Joshua Markel) and Jeffrey Gold (Annikke Boomsma), grandchildren Judah Gold-Markel, Micah Gold-Markel (Stacey Harpster), and Jesse Boomsma-Gold (Alyssa Arnold), and great grandchildren, Niomi, Leah, Orianna, and Mira. The family requests that donations in her memory be directed to HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) or Doctors without Borders, for their current work with Ukrainian refugees.

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REIVER

Florence (nee Goodman) Reiver

March 13, 2022 of Bala Cynwyd, PA; beloved wife of the late Sam Reiver; loving mother of Andrew (Patti) Reiver and the late Patricia Reiver; adored grandmother of Sam Reiver; devoted sister to the late Doris (George) Rosenthal and the late Ruth (Murray) Liss; and also survived by many loving nieces and nephews and her loving caregiver, Donna Deloach. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (jdrf.org) or Alex's Lemonade Stand. (alexslimonade.org)

JOSEPH LEVINE & SONS MEMORIAL CHAPEL
WWW.LEVINEFUNERAL.COM

ROSENWALD

CRAIG on March 11, 2022. Beloved son of the late Ilene and Martin; Loving brother of Mitchell and the late Marc; Devoted uncle of Berk and Lanah. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

WWW.GOLDSTEINSFUNERAL.COM
GOLDSTEIN'S ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS

SAFT

Irwin C. Saft passed peacefully this Monday, after a brief illness, at the age of 91, with his wife, Carole, by his side. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Irwin travelled the world as a Captain in the Navy, before starting his own insurance business. Irv is survived by his wife, his brother, Stanley (Merle), his children Mallory, Stephanie, Marjorie, Judith and Robert, as well as his seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was proceeded in death by his beloved son, Scott. An avid reader, lover of theater and music, skilled sailor, and Penn State super-fan, Irv was cherished and adored by his family, and will be greatly missed. Donations can be made in his memory to the Penn State Library and

the Philadelphia Library for the Blind and the Handicapped.

SEGAL

Philip Segal, age 93, died on March 15, 2022. Husband of Roberta "Bobbie" (nee Rosen); father of Sheri (Dr. David) Tarrab, Randi (Rick Stewart) McEwing, and Perri (Dr. Joseph) Stella; brother of Lillian Friedrich; grandfather of Travis Tarrab, Tzipporah (Baruch) Miller, Taylor McEwing, Ari McEwing, Asa Stella, and Jonah Stella; and great-grandfather of Chaim Moshe, Yeshaya, Binyamin, Esther Lieba. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), www.jdc.org.

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ZITIN

Madelon Sokoloff Zitin – 1945-2022

Madelon Zitin died in her home in Elkins Park on March 9, from mantle cell lymphoma, which she had endured with courage and grace for over 15 years. Beloved daughter of the late Karel and Florence Sokoloff, Mady was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. and grew up in Woodmere, Long Island, and South Orange, N.J. She will be greatly missed by her loving family: husband Robert Zitin, a life-long Philadelphian; daughter Erica Kesselman, of Woodstock, Conn., and son Gabriel Kesselman, of Pomfret, Conn.; granddaughters Abby and Zoe Botta, Delilah and Serafina Kesselman; and her sisters, Elisabeth Amaral and husband Robert Silberstein of New York City; and Natalie Neuert and husband Ed of Richmond, Vt. She had a close and loving relationship with her stepchildren and grandchildren, and will be missed by Todd, Andrew, and David Zitin, and their children Zoe, Elijah and Zachary. Her beloved nephews Nick and wife, Jackie; Harrison and wife Brynne; and Loughlin were also a close part of her life. Throughout her time in New Jersey, New York, and Philadelphia, Mady made close and life-long friendships, and these women, too numerous to name here, were a great source of joy and support to her. Mady was an avid attendee of museums, theater, music, and dance performances and adored going to shows, from small Philly theaters to Broadway. She was a voracious reader and was never without a book in her hands and a pile on her bedside table. She graduated from NYU with a degree in English, and went on to advanced certificates in ESL, reading pedagogy, library science, and teaching. She worked for many years as a reading teacher and librarian in school systems in New Jersey, New York, and Philadelphia. She helped countless children develop a love of reading that would open the world to them, and her work to promote literacy in libraries and classrooms had a great effect on many lives.

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BIRTH**ANNA LEE CARROLL**

Michael and Rachel Carroll (née Fischer) of Philadelphia announce the birth of their daughter, Anna Lee, on March 7.

Sharing in their joy are Anna's brother Charlie; grandparents Phyllis and Howard Fischer of Philadelphia and Veronica and Michael Carroll of Erdenheim; great-grandfather Irving Fischer; and aunts and uncles Becca and Hal Leshner, Chris and Chrissy Carroll, Matt and Ali Carroll, and Tim and Keli Carroll.

Anna is named in loving memory of her paternal great-grandmother Anna Carroll and her maternal great-grandmother Leona Fischer.

Photo by Rachel Carroll

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What's happening at ... Temple Sinai

Temple Sinai Remains Steady and Reliable

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

After the pandemic broke out in March 2020, Temple Sinai in Dresher made like most congregations and pivoted to the digital space.

Two years later, the Conservative synagogue is still living there, but it's also back open in the physical space. As other Jewish communities try to figure out their hybrid futures, Temple Sinai lives and gathers in a hybrid present.

For the High Holidays last fall, temple leaders reopened their doors but also offered an online option; at an adult education class, attendance is higher than it was before the pandemic due to Zoom and livestream components; and at the synagogue's religious school, students can learn from home during the weeknight class, though they still need to show up in person for the Sunday morning session.

"We want to continue this hybrid option because it's providing a service to people," Temple Sinai Executive Director Ari Goldberg said.

During the pandemic, Sinai leaders learned just how inconvenient it was for many members to come in on weeknights. Some older congregants didn't want to drive at night; some younger parents barely had time to bring their kids to Hebrew school.

Hybrid options make synagogue life more accessible, according to Goldberg. They even open up Temple Sinai to Jews outside of the Philadelphia area, who have joined local congregants at various activities.

"It's been incredible seeing how easily many people transition to that," he said.

He could say the same about the synagogue in general. Goldberg credited temple staff, especially in the Hebrew school, for transitioning almost overnight and adapting the transition's features into more long-term changes.

"My impression is it was a staff that was very willing and open to pivoting quickly, being creative," Goldberg said.

Temple Sinai counts 400 families

in its congregation and close to 100 students in its preschool.

If you talk to congregants, it's the synagogue's reliability that keeps them coming back.

Marla Kepniss of Maple Glen joined 15 years ago. Her kids went through preschool and religious school at the Dresher institution. But even though their children are older now, Kepniss and her husband are still members.

She serves on the board of directors and on various committees. He's part of the Men's Club.

"It feels like a place where we want to spend our time," Kepniss said.

Greg Halperin of Dresher agrees with Kepniss. Halperin, the synagogue's executive vice president, has been a member for 19 years, and he's seen his son and daughter become a bar and bat mitzvah, respectively, at Temple Sinai.

"It's really just been home," he said.

One reason he feels that way is because of Sinai's senior rabbi, Adam Wohlberg.

Halperin called Wohlberg "a very knowledgeable guy," a quality that comes through in his sermons and in private conversations. According to the longtime member, the rabbi is staunchly pro-Israel when it comes to politics; he's also good at applying Jewish values to the complicated and divisive political issues of the day.

"I like the way he infuses Judaism into everything he's talking about," Halperin said.

More important than his perspective, though, is how Wohlberg cares about congregants, according to Goldberg. The executive director, who only joined the temple 10 months ago but is a regular at Shabbat services, even went as far as calling the rabbi a "mensch."

Wohlberg, now in his 20th year leading the congregation, said that engaging with families is his favorite part of the job.

It was the reason he came to Temple Sinai in the early 2000s. He had family members who were congregants, and he had attended a bat mitzvah at the Dresher institution, so he knew of



Rabbi Adam Wohlberg, front, with Temple Sinai students

Courtesy of Temple Sinai



Temple Sinai congregants at a winter event

Courtesy of Temple Sinai

the synagogue's reputation for having active families at every stage of the life cycle: preschool, the bar and bat mitzvah program and up through the age brackets.

The reputation turned out to be true. "I've immensely enjoyed being part of the family's lives, celebrating with them, helping them through challenging moments, watching their commitment to Jewish life increase," Wohlberg said.

Synagogue leaders are in the process of planning a 20th-anniversary event

to celebrate their rabbi. And it will be in person, too.

Goldberg expects congregants to come out because they did so for other gatherings. At a recent Purim program for preschool families, Goldberg was stunned by the number of people who attended.

"What it taught us is that, while families are being careful, they do recognize what they've missed," he said. **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com

Out & About

Courtesy of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy



1

Courtesy of Beth Sholom Congregation



4

1 Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy Middle School students glazed ceramic bowls to donate to the food insecure and created tiles for community gardens. 2 Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy hosted Rev. Charles Howard, vice president for social equity at the University of Pennsylvania, to discuss the importance of compassion for different populations. 3 Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy's girls' basketball team reached the finals of both the Pennsylvania Independent School Athletic Association and the Penn Jersey Athletic Association tournaments. 4 Beth Sholom Congregation members Cantor Jacob Agar, Tess Zakrwski, Lisa Stein, Ken Ulansey and Aaron Grotsky rehearsed on March 11 for that night's Klezmer Shabbat. 5 South Philadelphia Ladies Auxiliary #98 gave shalach manot baskets to the Ronald McDonald House.



2



3



5

Courtesy of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy

Courtesy of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy

Courtesy of South Philadelphia Ladies Auxiliary

LAST WORD

Rabbi Jerome P. David

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

When Jerome P. David was 11 or 12 years old, he convinced his parents to join a synagogue. He doesn't remember the exact reason why; he just remembers feeling strongly about it.

David's Holocaust-survivor parents said yes, even though they had moved away from the religion after their harrowing experience.

"Parents of that background would not deny any wish their children had," David said.

A couple of years later, the young boy was on the bimah becoming a man on his bar mitzvah day, and his rabbi told both him and the audience that, "We now know where our next rabbi will be coming from."

"He saw it in me," David said of his rabbi.

The thought had not yet crossed David's mind — but it would go on to define the rest of his life.

David retired in June of 2021 after 47 years leading Temple Emanuel, a Reform synagogue in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

After growing up and attending rabbinical school in Cincinnati, he arrived in South Jersey for his first job in 1974. Before interviewing with Temple Emanuel, he didn't even know where Cherry Hill was, but then he never left.

David started his career with a two-year contract, but after those first two years, both sides ripped it up. David worked for the next four-plus decades on "a relationship of good faith," as he described it, though he did, of course, get paid.

The young rabbi served as an associate for 10 years to his mentor, Ed Soslow. But when Soslow died in 1987, David stepped forward to carry on his legacy. He would remain in his senior position for the next 34 years.

David started thinking about retirement near the end of the 2010s, and by



the summer of 2020, he was ready; he just wanted to announce it on his own terms. During a Yom Kippur service that fall, David gave a sermon about change.

"How we learn in the Talmud that that first step is always the hardest," he said. "But I was ready to take that first step."

His decision cleared the way for Temple Emanuel to merge with another Reform congregation in Cherry Hill, M'kor Shalom. Leaders at both synagogues knew that, in a time of declining synagogue attendance, they would be stronger if they unified their mem-

berships of roughly 300-350 families each and their resources, according to M'kor Shalom President Drew Molotsky.

They just didn't want to choose between their respective rabbis, David and Rabbi Jennifer Frenkel at M'kor Shalom, both of whom were well-liked. David's readiness and willingness to take his first step toward his next chapter made for a smooth transition at the top of the unified congregation's spiritual hierarchy.

But the rabbi emeritus will remain active in the congregational life of the temple he helped build. He's going to

teach a conversion class and a Torah study class, as well as the occasional religious school program; he's also going to remain involved with the synagogue's philanthropy.

At the same time, David is going to "retire to something," he said. Actually, the rabbi emeritus is retiring to many things: his morning Peloton session, his hobbies of cooking and gardening and, most importantly, his wife Peggy and their three children and seven grandchildren.

Two of David's sons live in the Philadelphia area, including Benjamin David, the incoming rabbi at Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park. His other son lives in North Jersey.

But as he enjoys retirement, David also reflects.

"Shalom means many things, but it means to be complete and to be whole, and that's how I feel," he said.

David's name is on the education wing of Temple Emanuel's building, which will become the home of the unified congregation. The rabbi emeritus opened the preschool at the synagogue and, to this day, it has a waiting list.

But his legacy is inside both the building and its many inhabitants.

David Chasen, Temple Emanuel's president and a congregant for 26 years, said that David was good at the big part of the job, like running weddings, funerals and bar and bat mitzvahs. But it was the "series of little gestures" that made an impact.

After Chasen lost his grandfather, he was walking out of a meeting at the synagogue when David spotted him. He walked over, put his arm on Chasen's shoulder and said, "If you need anything I'm here."

Jessica Manelis, an Emanuel member for 30 years, remembered that when her mother was sick, David would call her even though she was not even a congregant. And he kept calling even when she was on the mend. **JE**

Courtesy of Temple Emanuel



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ESTATE OF DANIEL J. PETERSEN, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DEBRA BRITT, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to her Attorney:
DANIELLA A. HORN
KLENK LAW, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF EMMA ROSARIO a/k/a EMMA LUCY ROSARIO, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to MIGUEL ANGEL MIRANDA, JR., ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Kenneth R. Pugh, Esq., 5401 Wissahickon Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144,
OR to his Attorney:
KENNETH R. PUGH
JERNER LAW GROUP, P.C.
5401 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

ESTATE OF ERIC ROEBUCK, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to EVANS ROEBUCK, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
DANIELLA A. HORN
KLENK LAW, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF ESSER LUE DAVIS, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to PAULINE COLEMAN, EXECUTRIX, c/o Nathan Snyder, Esq., 3070 Bristol Pike, Bldg. 2, Ste. 204, Bensalem, PA 19020,
Or to her Attorney:
NATHAN SNYDER
LAW OFFICE OF NATHAN SNYDER
3070 Bristol Pike, Bldg. 2, Ste. 204
Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE OF FELICE A. ERDREICH, LATE OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, PA, DECEASED.
Letters of Administration on the above estate having been granted to Howard Erdreich, all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having legal claim to present the same without delay to the Administrator below: Howard Erdreich, 14 Juniper Drive Richboro, PA 18954, or Attorney: Robert L. Mercadante, Esq. 408 Fawn Hill Lane Penn Valley, PA 19072

ESTATE OF FITZGERALD ANDERSON, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CHARMAIN ANDERSON-COVER, EXECUTRIX, c/o Angela D. Giampolo, Esq., 1221 Locust St., Ste. 202, Philadelphia, PA 19107,
Or to her Attorney:
ANGELA D. GIAMPOLO
GIAMPOLO LAW GROUP, LLC
1221 Locust St., Ste. 202
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ESTATE OF GLADYCE F. RUBIN, DECEASED.

Late of Upper Moreland Township, Montgomery County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ARLENE B. RUBIN and JEFFRY F. RUBIN, EXECUTORS, c/o Lawrence S. Chane, Esq., One Logan Square, 130 N. 18th St., Philadelphia, PA 19103-6998, Or to their Attorney: LAWRENCE S. CHANE BLANK ROME LLP One Logan Square 130 N. 18th St. Philadelphia, PA 19103-6998

ESTATE OF HELEN D. DELMOOR BROWN a/k/a HELE N D. BROWN, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION CTA on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to AYANNA E. DELMOOR, ADMINISTRATRIX CTA, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150, Or to her Attorney: JAY E. KIVITZ KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C. 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF HENRIETTA SLAP, DECEASED

Late of Philadelphia, PA.
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to Eve Slap and Alison Tress, Executrices, c/o Gary A.

Zlotnick, Esq., Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer & Toddy, PC, One Commerce Sq., 2005 Market St., 16th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103 or to their attorneys, Gary A. Zlotnick, Esq. Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer & Toddy, PC One Commerce Sq. 2005 Market St., 16th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF HENRY J. WEISSMAN, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to RONALD JAMES WEISSMAN, ADMINISTRATOR, 6036 Lawndale St., Philadelphia, PA 19111, Or to his Attorney: HENRY A. JEFFERSON JEFFERSON LAW, LLC 1700 Market St., Ste. 1005 Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF JEANETTE L. SANTUCCI, (a/k/a JEANETTE SANTUCCI, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to NIKKI JOHNSON, EXECUTRIX, c/o Carolyn M. Marchesani, Esq., 800 E. High St., Pottstown, PA 19464, Or to her Attorney: CAROLYN M. MARCHESANI WOLF, BALDWIN & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 800 E. High St. Pottstown, PA 19464

ESTATE OF JEANNIE ADAMS, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted

to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to RALPH NICHOLS, JR., EXECUTOR, Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney: ADAM S. BERNICK LAW OFFICE OF ADAM S. BERNICK 2047 Locust St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF LINDA HOWELL a/k/a LINDA SCOLAVINO HOWELL, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JOSEPH SCOLAVINO, EXECUTOR, c/o Kenneth R. Pugh, Esq., 5401 Wissahickon Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144, Or to his Attorney: KENNETH R. PUGH JERNER LAW GROUP, P.C. 5401 Wissahickon Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19144

ESTATE OF MARC ZOLL DECEASED

Late of Philadelphia, PA.
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to Melissa Caplan, 6 Shamrock Court, Newtown, PA 18940 Administratrix. Jeffrey S. Michels, Esq. 1234 Bridgetown Pike Suite 110 Feasterville, PA 19053

ESTATE OF MARJORIE RICHMAN, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CHARLES JAY RICHMAN and ANN RICHMAN BERESIN, EXECUTORS, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to their Attorney: DANIELLA A. HORN KLENK LAW, LLC 2202 Delancey Place Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF PAULINE ALLEN, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JULIE A. MCNAIR, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Nathan Snyder, Esq., 3070 Bristol Pike, Bldg. 2, Ste. 204, Bensalem, PA 19020, Or to her Attorney: NATHAN SNYDER LAW OFFICE OF NATHAN SNYDER 3070 Bristol Pike, Bldg. 2, Ste. 204 Bensalem, PA 1902

ESTATE OF SALLY ANN HAMILTON, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KARYN L. COATES, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Donna J. Wengiel, Esq., P.O. Box 70,

Newtown, PA 18940, Or to her Attorney: DONNA J. WENGIEL STUCKERT AND YATES P.O. Box 70 Newtown, PA 18940

ESTATE OF SHIRLEY SCHMUCKLER a/k/a SHIRLEY HYMAN SCHMUCKLER, DECEASED.

Late of Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to LOUIS A. SCHMUCKLER, EXECUTOR, c/o Katherine F. Thackray, Esq., 1880 JFK Blvd., Ste. 1740, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney: KATHERINE F. THACKRAY ALEXANDER & PELLI, LLC 1880 JFK Blvd., Ste. 1740 Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF THOMAS RISPO, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to VINCENT RISPO, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney: DANIELLA A. HORN KLENK LAW, LLC 2202 Delancey Place Philadelphia, PA 19103

FICTITIOUS NAME REGISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on

December 21, 2021 for Lovelybone at 5645 Loretto Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19124. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Mykemyah Washington at 5645 Loretto Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19124. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

FICTITIOUS NAME REGISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on December 30, 2021 for MNP Creative Services at 30 E Lancaster Ave. Ph 03, Wynnewood, PA 19096. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Mario Pabaroue at 30 E Lancaster Ave. Ph 03, Wynnewood, PA 19096. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

FICTITIOUS NAME REGISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on November 11, 2021 for Qwikkit at 15002 Sommermeyer ST. Ste 100 Houston, TX 77041. The entity interested in such business is Cinch Kit, LLC, whose Principal Office provider's address is 15002 Sommermeyer St. Ste. 100 Houston, TX 77041. in Dauphin County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Notice is hereby given that Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on the 17th day of December, 2021 with respect to a proposed non-profit corporation, **Toll Brothers at Northbank Condominium Association, Inc.**, which has been incorporated under the Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

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